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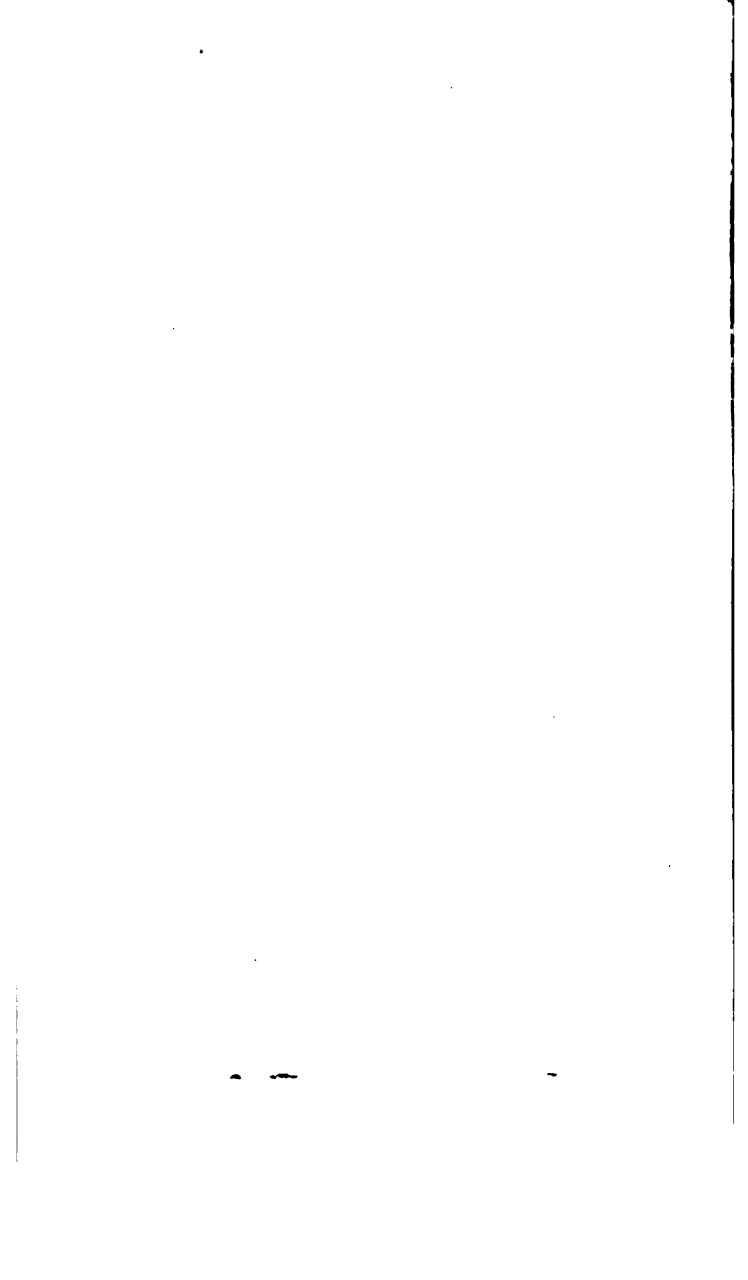
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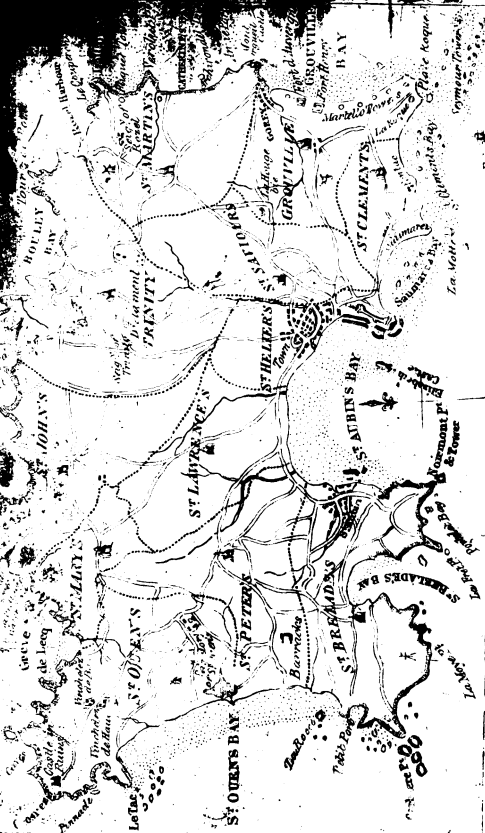


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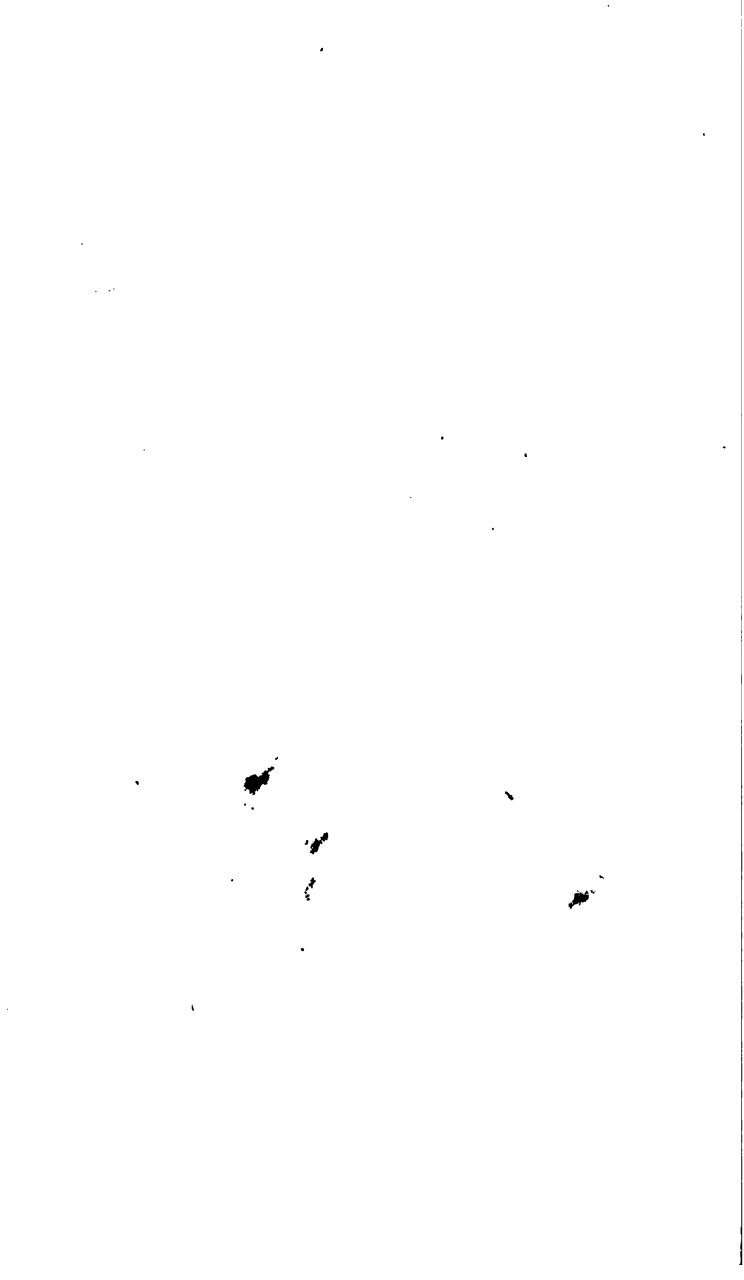


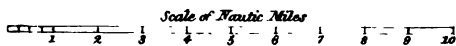
ISLAND OF JERSEY

Plenont



P. R. GOSSET





A GUIDE
TO
JERSEY AND GUERNSEY;
INCLUDING THE
NEIGHBOURING ISLANDS OF
ALDERNEY,
SERK, HERM, AND JETHOU;
WITH
A Map of all the Islands.

SECOND EDITION, GREATLY ENLARGED.

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A GUIDE

TO

JERSEY, GUERNSEY, &c.

CHAPTER I.

SECTION I.

GENERAL AND MILITARY HISTORY.

THE origin of small states can seldom be correctly ascertained. Absorbed in the history of larger territories, they seldom become objects of notice; and when they have engaged the attention of any early writer, the account transmitted to posterity is generally a tissue of facts and fable, so interwoven as to render it difficult and frequently impossible to distinguish the one from the other.

Jersey has, in this respect, shared the fate of other minor countries; it is, therefore, quite uncertain at what time it became peopled, or who were its aborigines. It was, unquestionably, inhabited at a very early period: the various monuments of Celtic worship that formerly existed, and some of which still remain, sufficiently attest this; and the Punic, the early Roman, and the Gaulish coins, discovered at different times and places in the island, corroborate it.

The earliest mention of the *Channel Islands* is in the 6th book of Cæsar's Commentaries, where it is stated that one

Ambiorix, having rebelled against the authority of Cæsar, in Gaul, was quickly overcome, and his followers put to the sword; the chief fled to the shore, and passed over to some islands: these islands are supposed to be Jersey and Guernsey, from the description that is given of their appearance from the land, which corresponds with their general character at the present time.

That part of Mont Orgueil Castle, in Jersey, called *Le Fort de César*, the immense earthen rampart near *Rosel*, of which a remnant still exists, and the traces of a camp at *Dielament*, together with the many Roman coins found in different parts of the island, prove that it was a place of some consequence under the Romans: it may, however, be presumed that Jersey was little more than a military station to that people, though an important one.

Mezeray, in his *History of France*, mentions a division of Gaul into provinces, under Octavius Cæsar, and a subdivision of Normandy into presidencies. "These ten nations," says another French historian, "together with the inhabitants of the islands lying near them, were known in Celtic Gaul by the name of the League of the eleven Cities." Thus we have historic proof that these Islands were inhabited by the Romans.

In the fifth century, the Franks, issuing from Germany, spread themselves in every direction. Under their sovereigns of the Merovingian and Carolingian races, they founded an empire which extended from the ocean to the Danube. Its more general division was into East and West France; the latter called *Westria*, and afterwards *Neustria*, which now is Normandy, though far more circumscribed than the ancient *Neustria*. The islands in its vicinity very naturally constituted a part of the district.

During this period, Sampson, an Englishman, and archbishop of St. David's, on some disgust, retired to Britany, where the Duke of that province gave him the bishopric

of Dol, to which Childebert, King of France, added the Islands of Jersey and Guernsey, with the other islands contiguous to them. Sampson landed in Guernsey, in that part which is now called St. Sampson's harbour, and where he built a chapel : his object in visiting the Islands, seems to have been the conversion of the heathen inhabitants to Christianity. He was succeeded by Maglorius : the result of their labours will be given, with more detail, in the ecclesiastical history of the Islands.

The inhabitants of the Islands, but principally those of Guernsey, in the time of Sampson and Maglorius, subsisted chiefly on fish : this Island was reckoned, though the most distant from France, the most considerable of all, on account of the safety and convenience of its harbours, and the quantity of fish on its coast. In the course of time, when the fishery was well established, many families of note, convents, and other religious houses in Normandy and Britany, were constantly supplied from Guernsey ; the few necessities that the inhabitants required were supplied from the ports of Bretagne and Normandy, in exchange for their fish. As their occupation was fishing, their land was not cultivated ; all their houses and even the churches were built near the shore, to be near the scene of their occupations.

About A. D. 837, during the reign of Ludovicus Pius, son of Charlemagne, the Normans began to carry on a piratical war on the western coast of France : by degrees, their ravages became frequent and more extensive, and these Islands were not exempt from their predatory visits ; if they did not suffer in the same degree as their continental neighbours, it was more from the poverty of their inhabitants than from their means of resistance. In one of these descents, the Normans murdered St. Helier, a venerable anchoret, whose cell still remains on a rock near Elizabeth Castle. A Norman nobleman, who was

present when the horrid act was committed, after the establishment of the Duchy of Normandy, being converted to Christianity, founded an Abbey in St. Helier, in order to atone for the crime. Their incursions occurred nearly eighty years. At length Charles the Fourth, surnamed The Simple, concluded a treaty with Rollo, the chieftain of that restless band, A. D. 912. By this agreement he married the king's daughter, and had Normandy, together with these Islands, ceded to him, as a fief of the crown of France.

The character of Rollo, as handed down to us by historians, and as seemingly corroborated by circumstances, does not accord with his being the leader of a banditti; he is said to have been remarkable for the strictness and impartiality with which he administered justice. Whether originating in his own appointment, or from a veneration for his name, is uncertain; but a singular custom prevailed, during his lifetime, of appealing to him, however distant he might be, in cases of oppression or encroachment. Ah! or ha! is supposed to be the exclamation of a person suffering. Ro! is an abbreviation of Rollo; so that, on Ha-Ro being pronounced aloud by the aggrieved party, the oppressor was obliged, at his peril, to forbear: in Jersey the cry is Ha-Ro, *à l'aide, mon prince!*

It is reported that the *Clameur de Haro* was employed at the funeral of William the Conqueror at Caen, where he was buried. A Norman, who had not been compensated for a part of the ground on which the monastery stood in which William was to be buried, uttered the exclamation as the royal corpse was brought into the monastery: such was the regard paid to the appeal, that the man was compensated ere it was interred.*

* ————— "De Haro."

"Notre vieille chronique nous en fournit un exemple memorable, en la personne d'un pauvre homme, de la ville de Caën. Il arrêta, en vertu d'un *Haro*, la pompe funèbre de Guillaume le Conquerant, qui lui avoit ôté un champ de terre, jusqu'à ce qu'on lui eût fait raison

Rollo died in 917; he has been compared to his great contemporary, King Alfréd. The Icelandic Chronicles described him as one of the most renowned chiefs of the Normans. The French historians mention him as the greatest politician, the most humane prince of his time, religious, wise, liberal, eloquent, and indefatigable; of a noble figure, and majestic mien. William the Conqueror was descended from him in the seventh degree.

During the time that England was ravaged by the Danes, these Islands did not escape their incursions: according to some insular MSS. in Guernsey, they landed on that island and plundered the inhabitants, carrying off their corn and cattle. It was at this time that Vale Castle was built for their protection and security and was large enough to contain all the inhabitants with their cattle and effects within its walls; it was then called St. Michael's Castle, or the Castle of the Archangel. Little more than the outer wall of the original building now remains, and it has of late years been converted into barracks.

Duke Robert, who succeeded to the dukedom of Normandy in 1028, greatly enlarged its defences. He prepared a considerable force to invade England, during the reign of Canute, to support the claims of his cousins to the crown of that kingdom: he had embarked his forces at Feschamp, intending a descent on the Sussex coast, but the day after he set sail he was driven by a storm into Guernsey, and would have been cast on the rocks of that dangerous coast, had not the fishermen ventured out in

de cette usurpation. Et en l'année 1418, la ville de Roüen étant assiégée par Henri, Roi d'Angleterre, un prêtre fut député pour lui faire cette harangue, et au Duc de Bourgogne: *Tres excellent prince, et seigneur, il m'est enjoint de crier contre vous le grand Haro, qui signifie l'oppression qu'ils ont des Anglois; comme rapporte Monstrelet.*"

Coutumes de Normandie, par Basnage.

The anecdote is related by Baker, in his Chronicles of the Kings England.

their boats to his relief, and brought them into a bay on the north side of the Castle, where they rode in safety. The Abbot of St. Michael received him with all the respect due to a sovereign; on which account he added to the domains of the abbey, and granted it many immunities. He also left engineers on the Island, and skilful men, who built two other castles for the defence of the Island, but which are now gone to decay.

The immunities granted to the Abbey of St. Michael proved of great service to the Island. The Abbot, by Robert's grant being confirmed proprietor of a considerable portion of land within and round the vale, portioned it out to such of the inhabitants as would clear it, and thus prepare it for tillage, and encouraged the inhabitants of Normandy to emigrate for the same purpose. The Abbot had also the power to establish a feudal Court, to decide all cases in the Island, whether civil or criminal. This seems to have been the first regular jurisdiction of any kind established in Guernsey. Duke Robert died in 1035.

William, an illegitimate son of Robert, succeeded to the dukedom, and the improved state of the Island tempted pirates from the coast of France to invade and commit their ravages on it: they must for a time have had military possession, for they built a castle near the centre of the Island; but application having been made to William for assistance, he sent a body of troops under Sampson D'Anneville, who relieved the inhabitants and put the pirates to the sword: to reward this service, William granted to D'Anneville a large portion of land. One half of the Island was divided between him and the Abbot of St. Michael. William at the same time granted other portions to some of his nobles, and reserved the remainder to himself, which he let out in fiefs or manors, and appointed a person to manage and receive the rents. Thus was Guernsey brought into general cultivation in the eleventh

century, and about this time divided into parishes, as it is at present.

England being conquered by William, Duke of Normandy, these Islands came under her dominion, and have remained so since that period, notwithstanding the many attempts that have been made by the French to wrest them from her : they have, as Mr. Falle the historian of Jersey has observed, "the preference in point of antiquity to most others of their Majesties'* subjects, Ireland not being subdued till the reign of Henry II. ; nor Wales till that of Edward I. ; nor Scotland till the beginning of this last century, to say nothing of foreign plantations, which are yet most of them of a later date."

Though, in England, the laws, customs, manners, and even the language, underwent a material alteration at the Conquest, no change occurred in Jersey, or neighbouring Islands, in any of these respects. Under Henry I., all of them were finally annexed to the kingdom of England as a part of Normandy.

The intestine troubles by which England was agitated, during the reign of King John, enabled the French to invade and subdue Normandy. Twice also they attempted these Islands, but were repulsed. The king himself came over, and encouraged his loyal subjects to defend his and their patrimony.† He added to the defences on the Island, and strengthened the existing fortifications at Gros-nez and Mont Orgueil. He gave to Jersey a body of constitutions : this code is the foundation of all its franchises

* Falle wrote during the reign of William and Mary.

† It has been a matter of surprise to some historians, that John suffered his Norman possessions to be wrested from him with so little opposition, and exerted himself so strenuously on behalf of these islands ; but they must have overlooked the circumstance, that he had them granted to him when Earl of Montaigne, by his brother Richard I., which readily accounts for his partiality ; and it is related that he several times visited the islands, after he became seated on the throne of England.

and immunities ; and has been the basis of all subsequent charters, down to the present time : these are very numerous, and have been granted by different English monarchs, from Henry III. to Charles II. Since the latter reign, no new charter has been given ; but orders from the sovereign in council, have, at sundry times, been issued to a similar effect. This code may, with strict propriety, be called the *Magna Charta* of Jersey ; and was granted prior to the charter extorted from him by the barons.

John, having freed the Islands from their dependence on Normandy, determined that all matters of appeal, hitherto carried before the Duke's Exchequer in Normandy, should be referred to himself and council in England : this is at present the last appeal that the inhabitants have from their superior Court, in the respective Islands. The Islands became now more closely connected with England than ever ; from Britain they looked for protection. Normans and Frenchmen became equally their aversion, and in succeeding reigns frequently attempted their subjugation.

During the reign of Henry III., nothing relating to general history is recorded of the Islands, but it must not be left unnoticed, that Jersey produced a celebrated naval commander at this time, Philip D'Aubigny, who commanded the British fleet. When Louis, King of France, after a fruitless attempt to oppose the right of Henry, was returning with his forces, D'Aubigny encountered his fleet, and routed it with considerable loss.

While these Islands constituted a portion of Normandy, several gentlemen had estates in both : but when the separation took place, they were required to relinquish their allegiance to one or the other of the two contending kings, and to quit his dominions. The consequence of this requisition was the abandonment of such estates as lay within the territories of the monarch whose sovereignty they disavowed. This, though a necessary alternative, was

rendered an act of flagrant injustice, the owners not being permitted to sell the property abandoned. The greater part of the landholders declared in favour of that sovereign in whose domains they had the largest possessions: but the Seigneur de St. Ouen, of the name and family of Carteret, remaining fixed in his allegiance to England, was deprived of his lordship of Carteret and other estates in Normandy, which were much more valuable than his property in Jersey.

During the war between Edward I. and Louis IX. of France, the island of Guernsey was invaded, and the French obtained possession of Castle Cornet, but were speedily repulsed: Edward rewarded those who had signalized themselves on this occasion, and provided for the widows and orphans of those who had fallen.

In 1234, in compliance with a requisition from the inhabitants of Guernsey, an order was issued for the erection of a Pier, and a duty granted on ships coming to the island, to defray the expense: although the dues were collected, the pier was not begun till the reign of Elizabeth.

Edward I. presented Jersey and Guernsey with a seal, which is still affixed to all important public acts.

The close alliance that subsisted between the kings of England and France, during the reign of the weak but virtuous Edward II., kept the Islands from foreign attack, but they suffered from the mal-administration of affairs. Judges of assize were sent over from England, who wantonly distressed the inhabitants, by a flagrant violation of their most valuable rights*: but, on petition from the two chief Islands, during the reign of Edward III., an effectual stop was put to those abuses.

Edward III. claiming the crown of France by right of

* The Courts of Westminster assumed a right, which neither the Charter nor the constitution gave them, of issuing *quo warrantos*, compelling attendance at Westminster.

his mother, again involved the two kingdoms in war. The French made a descent on England; Southampton was sacked and plundered, and it is related that the islands of Jersey and Guernsey were invaded. Hugh Queriel, admiral of France, took possession of Castle Cornet, in Guernsey, and held possession of it three years. There is no authentic account of Jersey having at this time been attacked, and it is certain it was not taken, for we find the inhabitants raising a contribution, which amounted to 6400 marks, to assist in the recovery of Guernsey; the Island was recovered by Reynold of Cobham and Geoffroy de Harcourt: on this occasion, many Jerseymen of note lost their lives. It has been stated that Guernsey was also again taken in 1372, but this statement seems not to rest on so good a foundation as the former. The only account that exists of the fact is an extract from a MS., and an old legend.

In a subsequent invasion, commanded by the famous Bertrand de Guesclin, constable of France, the castle of Mont Orgueil in Jersey was attacked: the siege lasted several months, and the castle was on the point of surrendering, when the siege was raised, by the appearance of an English fleet, dispatched to its relief. Guernsey was at the same time subject to an attack, but it seems only to have been for the sake of plunder.*

Richard II. succeeding to the throne on the death of his grandfather Edward III., found the nation at peace, a truce having been made with France: this was afterwards renewed for twenty-five years, and it afforded the Islands a

* These islands must always have been considered an important appendage to the English monarchy, for it was stipulated in the treaty which ceded Normandy to France, "that those islands which he (Henry III.) possessed on the coast of France, should be his as before;" and in the treaty of Bretagne, in 1360, Edward III. had inserted an especial clause for the reservation of his title and possession, in like manner.

long season of tranquillity. Richard gave a charter to the islanders, granting them the same immunities as his Majesty's subjects in England, "provided they would well and faithfully behave themselves for ever."

The French again invaded Jersey, during the reign of Henry IV. They ravaged the open country, yet could not make any impression on the castle; which, it is said, from this period, received the name of the castle of Mont Orgueil. They were in this expedition under the command of Penhock, Admiral of Britany.

But where force was unavailing, treachery succeeded. During the eventful reign of Henry VI., commenced the civil wars between the White and Red Roses; or, more properly speaking, between the houses of York and Lancaster. Margaret of Anjou, Henry's queen, went over to France, with a view of obtaining assistance from Louis XI. The intriguing monarch, not daring openly to espouse her cause, yet desiring to profit by her misfortunes, connived at her treating with one of his courtiers; this was a nobleman, named Pierre de Brezé, Comte de Maulevrier, et de la Serenne. He agreed to raise a body of troops, and make a descent on England, on condition of having these Islands made over to him and his heirs, to be held independently of the English crown. Accordingly, he sailed to Britain with 2000 men, and sent one Surdeval, a Norman gentleman, to take possession of Mont Orgueil castle. This fortress, the English commander, who was of the Lancastrian party, had secret orders to deliver up; but to prevent any appearance of collusion, it was concerted that the governor should be surprised in his bed. The deep-laid scheme succeeded. The count arrived afterwards, styling himself, in all public acts, Pierre de Brezé, Comte de Maulevrier, &c., lord of the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and the others adjoining: but as a proof that he was merely an agent for the politic monarch, he added to his other titles,

those of counsellor and chamberlain of our sovereign lord the king of France.

The inhabitants were enraged at this declaration ; and all the count's endeavours to appease their discontent were unavailing. In the space of six years, he could not reduce more than as many parishes ; the other six, influenced by Philip de Carteret, Seigneur de St. Ouen, an ancestor of the present Lord Carteret, defied the count's power, and thwarted all his attempts.

At this time, Grosnez Castle existed : this has always been considered as the post of defence held by De Carteret against the French, while they had possession of the opposite side of the Island.*

During the reign of Edward, Sir Richard Harliston, vice-admiral of England, arriving at Guernsey with a squadron, De Carteret applied to him for assistance. Harliston came over to Jersey privately ; and having concerted measures with De Carteret, the inhabitants were directed to assemble at a time appointed, and they approached the Castle of Mont Orgueil, under cover of the night ; the fortress was, therefore, suddenly attacked both by sea and land. After a short though spirited resistance, it surrendered, before any account even of its being besieged had reached Normandy.

As the Jerseymen on a former occasion assisted their fellow Islanders of Guernsey, to deliver them from the French, so, on this occasion, the latter joined the troops of Sir Richard Harliston ; and greatly assisted in the success of the expedition. At a subsequent time, when a new

* A recent examination of the Manor House of St. Ouen, has led to the supposition that this was his point of defence. It has evidently been fortified. A moat of considerable width can be traced round the house, with other indications of a fortification. Its situation near to the centre of the island, and consequently nearer to those parts of the island in possession of the enemy, gives strength to the supposition.

charter was granted to Guernsey, this was recorded in the preamble ; and thus remains as an authentic testimony of their courage and public spirit.

After the reduction of Mont Orgueil Castle, Harliston had the government of Jersey conferred on him : in this post he continued nearly sixteen years. By his conduct he acquired general esteem ; but, unfortunately, he was induced to believe, that the person known in the annals of England by the name of Perkin Warbeck, was really the duke of York, younger son of Edward IV. Under this persuasion he quitted the Island, and went over to the duchess of Burgundy, in Flanders : but on the failure of Warbeck's enterprise, Sir Richard remained at the court of that princess, and was not allowed to resume his command.

Matthew Baker succeeded Sir Richard Harliston : he was a man of a very different character. He oppressed the inhabitants ; until, in consequence of his tyrannical conduct, he was superseded.

Baker's arbitrary measures induced Henry VII. to issue an order, restraining him, and every future governor, from appointing any dean, or bailiff, in the Island ; this privilege he reserved to himself. He forbade any governor from interfering with either the ecclesiastical or civil court ; and required that all disputes, wherein the governor might be interested, should be cognizable only by the king in council.

Henry VII., when earl of Richmond, and while escaping from his pursuers, landed in Jersey ; where he remained concealed until an opportunity presented itself by which he was enabled to pass over to the continent. The government and public administration of Jersey appearing to him defective, this prince, when he mounted the throne, endeavoured to remedy them ; and as John had given constitutions to the Island, Henry issued ordinances, comprised

in thirty-three articles; these, with occasional alterations, continued long in force; but they were superseded by a code of laws, in 1771.

The feudal system prevailed in Jersey, and even with more rigour than in England, or on the continent. Every seigneur was, in his district, a little sovereign; or more properly a little tyrant, exercising the power of life and death over his vassals: in so small an island, all the evils of the feudal system prevailed, with none of its advantages. Thus, as the population of a country must in a great measure depend on the manner in which justice is administered, Jersey, so cruelly treated, lost by degrees its inhabitants, and an island so favoured by nature became a mere desert.

The kings of England had frequently endeavoured to correct this abuse of power; but all their exertions were fruitless, and the people still sank under the iron rod of oppression. Henry VII., despairing of producing by forcible means any beneficial effect, or of inspiring the seigneurs with a sense of justice and humanity, had recourse to the Bishop of Rome to assist him in the accomplishment of his purpose. He applied to Pope Sixtus IV., stating the miserable condition of his Jersey subjects; and representing how much the seigneurs themselves injured each other by their private quarrels. The pope issued a bull, excommunicating those who should continue these intestine commotions. Fear operated where force had proved ineffectual. Those very men, whom neither the royal authority, nor the strong arm of power, could restrain, were intimidated by the threat of papal excommunication.

During the long reign of Henry VIII., these Islands were undisturbed by foreign invasion; but about the year 1518, Jersey, and especially the town of St. Helier, was visited by the plague, so that the court and the market

were removed to Grouville. Henry granted four charters to Guernsey, but principally in confirmation of former grants.

During the short but promising reign of Edward VI., the French took possession of Serk, which had been for some time uninhabited : where they erected forts for protection. They attacked Guernsey, and were, at first, successful ; but were ultimately repulsed. Not disheartened, however, by this miscarriage, they attempted the conquest of Jersey. They anchored in Bouley Bay, and there disembarked ; but were driven back to their fleet with the loss of a thousand men. In this attack, the Islanders were powerfully assisted by a body of troops dispatched from England.

During the reign of Queen Mary, Serk was retaken. In the *Chron. MSS. de Jersey*, it is said to have been surprised by a company of Flemings, subjects of king Philip, the husband of Mary. These men, arriving in the night, and finding the Island unguarded, mastered it without resistance : but Sir Walter Raleigh, who was for some time governor of Jersey, says that it was taken by stratagem.

The captain of a small vessel came to the Island, and asked permission to bury a corpse : after the precaution of searching the persons who were to come on shore with the coffin, lest they should have arms concealed about their persons, this was granted : the coffin, instead of containing a corpse, was filled with arms ; and while in the church, with the feigned purpose of burying the dead, the coffin was opened, they armed themselves with its contents, and in this manner regained possession of the Island.

During the whole reign of Elizabeth, England was at peace with France, and Jersey remained in a state of tranquillity. She rendered Castle Cornet, in Guernsey, one of the strongest places in her dominions, and she caused that

fortress to be erected, in Jersey, which is called by her name, for the protection of the sister Island*: the construction of the present pier in Guernsey, which had been so long postponed, was begun during the reign of Elizabeth.

The queen, to recompense the De Carteret family, gave to Helier de Carteret, Seigneur de St. Ouen, the island of Serk, to people and cultivate it. Notwithstanding many difficulties and obstructions that retarded his progress, he finally accomplished his object; and her Majesty testified her satisfaction by establishing Serk as a fief *en haubert*.†

Previously to this period America had been discovered by Columbus. That part of it which is more immediately connected with Jersey, is the island of Newfoundland. As the great but unfortunate Sir Walter Raleigh was, towards the latter part of Elizabeth's reign, governor of the Island, and became so instrumental in the colonization of America, it is highly probable that he was the first who suggested to the inhabitants of Jersey the advantages to be derived from that source of national wealth, in which they have since so largely partaken.

The reign of James I. was a season of peace; and it was by a commission issued by him, under the great seal, that the canons and constitutions, that form the ecclesiastical law of Jersey and Guernsey, were framed; at the same time an estimate of the revenue of the crown in the Channel Islands, was made under this commission.

Under Charles I., the islands of Jersey and Guernsey were again menaced by the French; but defensive measures were adopted, by which the threatened blow was averted. That monarch was extremely desirous of freeing

* The bells of the churches, leaving only one for each church, were sold to pay part of the expense of the fortification.

† Viz. a fief, holding from the crown alone, by knight's service.

Jersey from the repeated attacks of its neighbouring enemies. With this view, he added, at his own expense, the lower ward of Elizabeth Castle, and increased the other defences of the Island.

In the rebellion which terminated in the execution of the king, Jersey produced a gentleman, who, through a great variety of the most trying exigences, preserved for his sovereign an unshaken loyalty. This was Captain George Carteret, comptroller of the navy, an officer of high reputation. The parliament having appointed the earl of Warwick to be admiral, nominated Carteret as his vice: this post he refused to accept, without the consent of his sovereign, who would not permit one of his own officers to appear as favouring a rebellion against his authority.

Affairs being thus situated, Carteret retired with his family to Jersey. Well assured of the fidelity and acquiescence of the inhabitants, he declared openly for the king; and equipped ten light vessels, for the purpose of intercepting merchantmen trading under parliamentary passports. This little squadron was very successful, and excited a general alarm throughout the Channel.

The king sent his son to the west: but his support there not being sufficient to enable him to cope with the parliamentarians, he came over to Jersey, where he was welcomed by the inhabitants.* The Island, being surveyed by the officers in his suite, was considered as a place of security for him. In this expedition he was attended by several persons of rank, among whom was Sir Edward Hyde, afterwards earl of Clarendon. The prince was urged by the queen, his mother, who was then in France, to repair to her; which, after reiterated and press-

* It must not, however, be concealed, that, though the major part of the Islanders remained firm in their attachment to the royal cause, some did not: this is evident from a proclamation, issued by the king, in the year 1643, offering, with a few exceptions, a general pardon to the inhabitants.

ing entreaties, he consented to do. He resided in Jersey about two months : several of his courtiers remained much longer, particularly Sir Edward Hyde, who continued in the Island more than two years, and is said to have written part of his celebrated history, while resident there.

When it became currently reported that the king was to be brought to a public trial, a plan for his deliverance from his confinement in Hurst Castle was concerted by his Jersey subjects ; but from some unknown cause, the scheme was not carried into execution ; probably from the hopeless character of the project.

After the king's death, his son was proclaimed in Jersey, by the title of Charles II. This prince resided then at the Hague, almost neglected, but being obliged to quit Holland, he came again to Jersey, attended by a numerous suite, and was joyfully received by the inhabitants. He remained in the Island several months, and then quitted it, at the invitation of the Scottish nation. During his residence there, Sir George Carteret assembled the States, for the purpose of making a levy on the inhabitants, in order to tender his Majesty a present in money. The sum so obtained amounted to 5070 ecus, or £633 sterling, a large sum at that time, for so small an island ; and shows the devotedness of the Islanders to the royal cause.

The English parliament, by which the nation was now governed, enraged at the asylum afforded to the fugitive prince, and alarmed at the numerous captures made by the Jersey privateers, determined to reduce these Islands. For this purpose, in the month of October, 1651, a fleet was dispatched, under the command of Admiral Blake ; together with a formidable land force, under Major-General Haines. For three days these troops made different attempts to disembark on the western side of the Island ; but were constantly repulsed by Sir George Car-

teret and the armed natives. To harass and distract the Islanders, the admiral separated his squadron into divisions, and thus made false attacks in various places. At length, favoured by a dark night, a landing was effected in St. Ouen's Bay.

The brave and loyal inhabitants, unable to resist in the field a force far superior to their own, retreated into the fortresses. Their enemies soon possessed themselves of the fort of St. Aubin, which was pusillanimously surrendered, after a feeble resistance; they were equally successful in the capture of Mont Orgueil Castle, the fortifications of which, since the construction of that named after Queen Elizabeth, had been greatly neglected.

Sir George retired into Elizabeth Castle, with some of the principal inhabitants, and a garrison of 340 men. This post they defended for a considerable time, but the invaders having commenced a very destructive bombardment from the town hill, they were reduced to the utmost distress.

Charles II. was then in France: to him Sir George, in this extremity, applied for assistance from the sovereign of that kingdom. Charles could not obtain it, and he even advised Carteret to capitulate, as an unavailing defence would be a sacrifice of life, and subject others to the certainty of becoming prisoners, and of being treated with severity. Still the brave Carteret resolved, if possible, not to yield: finding, however, every hope of relief had vanished, and further resistance fruitless, he surrendered on honourable terms, and went over to the king in France.

Guernsey had previously yielded to the forces of the commonwealth, with the exception of Castle Cornet, which held out for the king. The castle was commanded by Sir Peter Osborne, Lieutenant Governor of the Island, and for a considerable time bid defiance to every attempt to reduce it. This occasioned a kind of civil war in that

Island, the castle and the town frequently firing on each other. The former was at length compelled to submit; and the fatal year 1651 completed, every where, the conquest of those places that adhered to the royal cause.

During a considerable period, at the time of the commonwealth, the office of Bailiff was filled by the Jurats, who exercised its duties alternately every month. It is to be presumed that this mode of government was proved to be neither to the advantage or satisfaction of the Islanders, as it seems there was no attempt to continue it at the Restoration. During this time, the earl of Norwich was appointed Governor; he deputed his authority to twelve commissioners, who governed Guernsey in his name: * their authority extended to Alderney and Serk.

During the Commonwealth, Jersey experienced the misery of being under an arbitrary government. Haines extorted money, under the pretence of a ransom, from all whom he thought able to supply his rapacity. Five thousand soldiers were put at free quarters, for the space of some months, on the inhabitants: they ranged, without control, throughout the country; and being violent enthusiasts, vented their fanaticism against the established religion, turning the churches into guard-houses and stables, with other profanations.

It has been said, that Charles had at one time an intention to deliver up these Islands to the French, in order to obtain some assistance in his necessities; but a higher and a more commendable policy prevailed. Lord Clarendon observes, " So strict and punctual was his care of the interest of England, when he seemed abandoned by it, that he chose rather to suffer those places of great importance to fall into Cromwell's power, than to deposit them on any conditions into French hands, who he knew would never restore them to the just owner."

Charles II. confirmed the charter granted to the Islands

by his father, and he discovered his partiality to Jersey in particular, by the gift to the bailiff and magistrates of a silver mace, with the following singularly honourable motto:—

“ *Tali haud omnes dignantur honore.*”

The renewed Charter set forth, that the Island had twice afforded him a safe retreat, when excluded from his other dominions.

During the reign of James II. a popish governor was sent over to Guernsey with a body of catholic soldiers, and other means adopted to subvert the protestantism of the Island; but upon the arrival of the Prince of Orange in England, a plan was formed to secure it for the prince. A day was fixed on, when a protestant officer was by rotation to have the command in Castle Cornet. The secret was entrusted to several protestant soldiers: their muskets being loaded with ball, while on parade they were ordered to form opposite to the popish soldiers, and compelled them to lay down their arms; at the same time, the chief captain in the town, seconded by the militia, secured the popish officers and men quartered there.

During the war in the reign of William and Mary, the Islands were in a state of continual alarm, but no attack on them actually took place: the victory of Cape La Hogue in 1692 dissipated all fears; but so imminent was the danger, that the English government sent Admiral Carter with 17 ships of war for their protection.

The continental wars in which the French monarchs were engaged during the reigns of our sovereigns Anne, George I., and George II. prevented further attempts on Jersey; and it does not appear that any important events disturbed the internal peace of the Islands, during the whole of this long period.

The first subsequent effort against Jersey, made on the part of that enemy by whose attacks it had formerly been

endangered, was in 1779. On the 1st of May, the prince of Nassau, commanding a body of from five to six thousand men, appeared with a fleet off St. Ouen's Bay. Here this army attempted to disembark; but the military stationed in the Island, assisted by a corps of militia, and supported by artillery, opposed their landing. Frustrated in the first design, the hostile squadron proceeded to St. Brelade's bay; but perceiving a similar opposition in this quarter also, the enterprize was abandoned.

Dissensions and recriminations among the French officers, in consequence of this failure, led to a second attempt; but before it could be carried into effect, the fleet destined to cover the landing was attacked by a British squadron, under Sir James Wallace, and nearly the whole destroyed.

The next and last project of this nature was of a very alarming description: not indeed from the force employed on the occasion, as it amounted to only 2000 men; but from the circumstances that accompanied the attempt, and the consequences that were likely to have resulted. This being the most recent attack, some more detail will be interesting.

On the 26th December, 1780, a body of French troops were embarked at Granville, under the command of the Baron de Rullecourt, who intended to land in the night, during the festive season of Christmas; at which time he hoped to possess the Island by a *coup de main*, conceiving that the inhabitants would be in a state less capable of defence, than at any other time.

Rullecourt quitted France in very tempestuous weather: many of his transports were, in consequence, dispersed; and the rest obliged to seek for shelter at the rocky island of Chauzey, a few leagues to the southward of Jersey: this reduced his little army to 1200 men. With this diminished force, however, he again set sail, on January 5th, 1781,

and reached Jersey about eleven in the evening. The place at which he arrived was Le Banc de Violet, a projecting point of flat rocks, covered at high water, at the S.E. corner of the Island. He was assisted by a Jerseyman, who had been transported for some crime, and was well acquainted with this very intricate coast. To this point his ships were driven by the current. Though not the spot at which he intended to disembark, his troops were ordered to land: only 700 got on shore; 200 being wrecked in their vessels, and the rest prevented, by the tide, from effecting a landing.

Rullecourt's first care was, to seize on a small battery of four guns, on the coast; and having left a company to protect the boats, and, in case of necessity, secure his retreat, he proceeded to St. Helier, avoiding the shore to prevent being discovered by any of the guard-houses. Arrived at the market place, they killed the centinel, and secured the guard; there escaped, however, one man, who ran immediately to the general hospital, in which was quartered a regiment of Highlanders. The inhabitants were astonished to see, at break of day, the market place filled with French soldiers, without a single gun having been fired, or the least alarm given.

The Lieutenant-governor, at this time, was Major Moses Corbet. He was in bed when first made acquainted with the enemy's arrival. His house being soon surrounded, he was taken prisoner; some others that were with him were also secured. Corbet, though thus surprised, found means to send information to the commander of the troops, which were stationed in different parts of the Island.

The French general, having had the Lieutenant-governor conducted to the Court house, represented to him that resistance was useless; that he had landed 4000 men in

different parts of the Island ; that the British troops, stationed near La Roque, were prisoners ; and that he had two battalions in the vicinity of the town. He pretended to send an order for these to approach ; and then issued a proclamation, in the name of the French monarch, promising protection to the inhabitants that would submit quietly, and menacing all that should resist with immediate punishment.

He then produced articles of capitulation for the surrender of the Island, and required Major Corbet to sign them ; saying, that in default of instant compliance, he had orders to burn the town, with the shipping, and to put every inhabitant to the sword. The major refusing, in consequence of being a prisoner, and making some remarks on the articles, Rullecourt laid his watch on a table, observing, that the objections were made merely with the intention of gaining time, and that unless the articles were signed in half an hour he would set fire to the town, and abandon it to pillage. At last, to avert the threatened destruction,—for this was the reason assigned by Major Corbet in his defence,—he and Major Hogge signed the capitulation. This convention was then presented to the king's advocate, to the constable, and to several other persons ; but they showed their loyalty and public spirit by refusing their signatures.

The baron, however, conceived himself to be master of the Island. He therefore produced a commission from the king of France, appointing him a general in his army, and governor of Jersey. Under these new titles he invited several gentlemen to dine with him at Major Corbet's. He then ordered all the shops to be opened, and every thing to proceed as usual, forbidding, however, the assembling together of any number of inhabitants. He obliged Major Corbet to send a written order to the different corps

of troops, not to move from their respective barracks : this the British officers were compelled to obey, until convinced that the major issued it while a prisoner.

During these eventful scenes, the militia assembled in different places, and prepared for a severe encounter. Every regiment moved towards the town ; the greater part joined the Highlanders, who were encamped on *le Mont Patibulaire*, or Gallows hill ; and a company marched to Elizabeth castle, whither Captains Aylward and Mulcaster had previously repaired, and given the information that Major Corbet was a prisoner.

Corbet now dispatched an order for the troops on the heights to bring their arms to the Court house ; and sent notice of the capitulation to the castle. Shortly after this message had been forwarded, the French troops left St. Helier, to take possession of that fortress.

Rullecourt marched at the head of the column, holding Major Corbet by the arm. They were no sooner on the beach, than a shot from the castle announced resistance. Advancing still, a second ball wounded several of the enemy. This induced the French general to halt, and send an officer to the garrison, with a copy of the capitulation, and a written order from Corbet to surrender the castle : this was refused by the commanding officer, and the messenger having represented the force already landed as very formidable, he was answered by being conducted to the citadel, and shown the strength of the fortress.

Rullecourt, compelled to retire to the town again, denounced vengeance. Major Corbet then sent a copy of the capitulation and a peremptory order, commanding the gates to be opened, and the French to be received as conquerors.

Capt. Mulcaster, who commanded, put the papers in his pocket without reading them, saying he did not understand French. On the officer expostulating with him, and stating how unavailing was resistance, as 10,000 more troops

were hourly expected, he coolly replied, " So much the better ; we shall have the more to kill."

During these transactions, the regular troops, under the orders of Major Pierson of the ninety-fifth regiment, who was the next in command to the captive lieutenant-governor, together with the island militia, were assembled upon the heights near the town.

Rullecourt's bright prospect now began to lower : a dark cloud was gathering round him. He seized on the parochial artillery, which he planted at the avenues leading to the market place. He soon received information that the troops were descending from Gallows hill, in columns ; the regulars in advance.

In this critical moment, the baron made a last effort to revive his withering laurels, and to obtain actual possession of his assumed conquest. He sent an officer to meet the advancing troops, and to prevail on Major Pierson to conform to the capitulation : thus to spare the effusion of human blood, and save the town from destruction. The orders were to bring their arms to the Court house. The Major, who spoke the French language fluently, replied, "*Oui, nous porterons nos armes à la maison de la ville, mais ce sera la bayonette au bout du fusil.*" (Yes, we will carry our arms to the Court house, but with the bayonet at the end of the musket.) Major Pierson having refused, the French officer requested time to return, and make a report to his commander. He required an hour for this purpose ; but the island troops evinced an impetuosity that the Major found it difficult to repress. He consented to halt for half an hour ; at the same time sending the adjutant of the ninety-fifth regiment to accompany the French officer, and to demand the liberation of the lieutenant-governor. On their arrival at the Court house, where they found Rullecourt and Major Corbet, the adjutant asked if the latter was a prisoner : both are said to have answered

in the negative, though not in a manner satisfactory to Pierson's messenger. The baron, perceiving that negotiation was not likely to terminate favourably, added, that he should now so dispose of his men, as to prove that he could enforce submission.

The time granted by Major Pierson to the French officer appeared long to the little army under his command: the militia, in particular, displayed that enthusiastic loyalty, which the islanders had, on so many occasions, previously manifested. The major had, however, a reason for restraining this ardour. He had detached the light companies of the seventy-eighth and ninety-fifth regiments, together with two from the militia, with directions to take a circuitous route, and possess themselves of the town hill: this detachment had not yet arrived at the place of its destination. The major was likewise at a loss how to act: he had received the lieutenant-governor's orders not to engage; and he repeatedly observed, that if that officer was not a prisoner, he must necessarily conform to the directions of his superior in command. However, on the adjutant's return, the whole body formed into one column, and marched towards the town.

It had been hitherto supposed, that the force stationed near Mont Orgueil had, agreeably to Rullecourt's own assertion, sustained a defeat, and that a formidable portion of his army remained posted in the same quarter: in fact, his strength in the Island was quite unknown; but during the march of Major Pierson's corps, he received a letter from the officer who commanded the troops near Mont Orgueil, by which he learned, that so far from having been made prisoners, they were proceeding to attack a party of the enemy that had taken possession of a battery at La Roque.

The British and island troops now arrived at St. Helier, and, separating into two divisions, pressed forwards towards

the market-place. An immediate and impetuous attack was made by one of these columns : rendered furious by disappointment, the French fought desperately. During this onset, part of the detachment which had reached the town hill, bore down on the enemy from another quarter of the town. At the same moment, the division headed by Major Pierson proceeded up King Street, and appeared in the market-place : he entered it through a short street, nearly facing the Court House, now called Pierson's Place : Captain Lumsden at the same time formed in Broad Street, at the head of the seventy-eighth regiment. The enemy made an immediate discharge, and Major Pierson fell dead into the arms of his grenadiers. Surprised, and for an instant discouraged, by the loss of their chief, his troops gave way ; but they soon rallied, formed again, and regained the ground which they had lost.

Rullecourt, seeing his men driven from every street into the market-place, added wanton cruelty to his previous falsehood and treachery. He went out from the Court House, holding the captive lieutenant-governor by the arm ; a short renewal of the conflict ensued ; the baron received a mortal wound ; some of his soldiers secreted themselves in the adjacent houses, and the rest surrendered : the victory was complete. Major Corbet escaped unhurt, though he received two balls through his hat.

The firing having ceased, Major Corbet resumed the command, and having secured his prisoners in the church, he marched towards the place where the French had landed, and were supposed to have a detachment. The battery of which they obtained possession on landing, had been retaken in the morning ; and such of Rullecourt's soldiers as were not either killed, or made prisoners, escaped to their vessels.

The enemy's loss in this ill-concerted and ill-fated attack has never been known ; the British had nearly fifty of the

regulars killed and wounded, and about thirty of the militia. Major Pierson was interred in the church of St. Helier, and a monument erected*, at the public expense, to commemorate his bravery and lamented death.†

A second descent being expected on the same night, the troops remained under arms until the morning. A general alarm, was, indeed, at midnight, spread through the island, and all expected a fresh conflict; but no further attempt was made.

Since the attack just detailed, Jersey has, at different times, been both menaced and alarmed; but has not experienced any actual attempt. Buonaparte, in his threatened invasion of England, called these islands stepping-stones to that kingdom; yet he never thought it advisable to attempt their subjugation.‡

* Executed by Bacon: the following is the inscription :

TO THE MEMORY OF
MAJOR FRANCIS PIERSON,
WHO,
WHEN THIS ISLAND WAS INVADED BY THE FRENCH,
FELL, BRAVELY FIGHTING
AT THE HEAD OF THE BRITISH AND ISLAND TROOPS.
HE DIED IN THE FLOWER OF YOUTH
AND IN THE MOMENT OF VICTORY,
ON THE SIXTH DAY OF JANUARY,
1781; AGED 24 YEARS.
THE STATES OF THE ISLAND,
IN GRATEFUL TESTIMONY OF THEIR DELIVERANCE,
CAUSED THIS MONUMENT TO BE ERECTED
AT THE PUBLIC EXPENSE.

† It is related that a faithful black servant of Major Pierson, having seen the soldier fire who killed his master, levelled his musket at him and shot him dead. A fine painting representing this engagement has been executed by Copley, and he has chosen this point of time for the scene. The black servant is a prominent figure in the fore-ground, apparently much excited, and his musket levelled at some object, supposed to be behind a group of soldiers that are bearing up the body of the fallen Major. An engraving has been executed from this painting, by Heath, in his best style.

‡ A report very generally prevailed at the time that Corbet was bribed to surrender the Island: he was tried, and superseded; but, as he was acquitted, it would not be right to impute to him greater culpability than was found by the court-martial. He lived at

In the beginning of the year 1814, this island became the temporary residence of His Royal Highness the Duc de Berri, nephew of Louis XVIII. Every attention was paid by the inhabitants to the illustrious visitant; while the condescending urbanity displayed by the prince, and the sense he expressed of the civilities he experienced, are the best proofs that he merited and felt them. He left Jersey, for France, April 12th, on receiving the intelligence that Buonaparte was dethroned, and the Bourbon family reinstated.

On Tuesday, July the 12th, peace with France was proclaimed, both at St. Helier and St. Aubin; on which memorable occasion there was, in the evening, a general illumination of both towns. Since this time nothing has occurred in Jersey that can be said to belong to history.

SECTION II.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

THE earliest account of religious worshippers in Transalpine Gaul, to which Jersey and the neighbouring islands unquestionably belonged, is that of Cæsar. He says, that, among the Celtæ, there were only two orders of men in any high degree of honour or esteem: these were the Druids and the nobles. The Druids had the supreme direction of every thing relating to religion; they also administered justice. Their principal deity was Mercury.* According

Southampton after the event, and died at a very advanced age in the year 1817.

The Rev. E. Durell, in a work that he has published conjointly with Mr. Oules, who has furnished the drawings, has examined the case of Major Corbet with more impartiality than could be expected from a native of the Island, where prejudices are so strong against the major: after duly considering all the circumstances connected with it, he inclines to the opinion that there was no real ground for treachery against him; but that his powers of mind were not equal to his embarrassing situation.

* Cæs. de Bello Gall.

to others, the sun was worshipped, under different names : thus Stonehenge, in Wiltshire, is by many supposed to have been a temple dedicated to that luminary ; and the annual rural pastime in Britain on the first day of May, has probably a Celtic origin ; that day being with the Druids a great festival in honour of the sun.

As we know but little respecting the Druids before Cæsar's time, so the subsequent accounts of them are very defective. It was a law with them, never to commit their doctrines to writing ; so that, being delivered orally, almost every traditional account of their tenets was by degrees effaced. To this the Romans also contributed, either from an abhorrence of the barbarous rites sometimes practised by the Druids, or from a conviction that they animated the people to resist ; or, probably, from both causes. The Romans, contrary to their usual custom, extirpated the Druid priests, in every place where the success of their arms gave them the power.

Before the invasion of Britain by the Saxons, that country professed the Christian faith ; the first step towards the conversion of these Islands from the idolatrous worship practised by the natives, was the consequence of a persecution in England ; numbers, as well laity as clergy, sought a retreat from the Saxon invaders.

Among those fugitives, the most noted for sanctity of life was St. Samson, who had become a metropolitan in Britain. The see of Dol, in Armorica*, was conferred on him, and, on his account, erected into a metropolis. The bishops of Armorica had previously been suffragans of Tours ; and because the see of Dol was circumscribed in extent, and therefore unequal to its new dignity, considera-

* Armorica was that portion of Gaul, situated in the N. W. corner, between the Seine, the Loire, and the Atlantic. From the settlement of the refugee Britons, the province of Bretagne, or Britany, derives its name. This territory was newly peopled in the fourth century, by a colony from Wales.

ble accessions were made to it by the religious zeal of different princes. These Islands were at that time subject to France, the sovereigns of which had recently been converted to Christianity; and Childebert, son of Clovis, presented them to St. Samson, about A. D. 550, as an augmentation to his small diocese. Alderney, being too remote from Dol, was not included in this grant.

Most of the Armorican sees were filled by British prelates who had accompanied St. Samson. He left his diocese and metropolitan dignity to his nephew, St. Magloire, who was likewise a Briton. This venerable ecclesiastic was the happy instrument selected by Divine Providence for the purpose of extending to these Islands the blessings of Christianity. St. Magloire, animated with an enthusiastic desire of converting the inhabitants, resigned his bishopric to St. Budoc, one of his disciples. Accompanied by properly qualified assistants, he then quitted the continent. He first landed in Serk, where he built a small monastery, and afterwards came over to Jersey, where he also built a chapel, which he called by his name*; there, by his powerful preaching, and influenced by his religious life, the inhabitants were induced to renounce idolatry, and receive the rite of baptism.†

During the reign of Chilperic, Pretextatus, bishop of Rouen, having displeased that king, by conniving at a marriage of his son with Brunehault, who was too nearly related to allow of the connexion, was banished to Jersey, where he remained in exile ten years.

During the reign of Charlemagne, who governed France from the year 768 to 814, Geroaldus, abbot of Fontenelle, was sent by that prince to Jersey and Guernsey, to assist

* Corrupted to St. Manliers.

† In an old MS. it is said, that St. Magloire, or Maglorius, settled on the spot where Elizabeth Castle now stands; and on that spot, which was then joined to the main land of Jersey, "erected a schoole for Christianity." An abbey was afterwards built on its site.

in the pious work of conversion. A copy of the mandate is still preserved in the Abbey of Fontenelle.

In the year 912, Rollo I., Duke of Normandy, annexed these Islands to the bishopric of Coutance, from which time they were separated from the see of Dol.

The establishment of Christianity in these Islands was followed by the invasion of the Normans. These fierce and piratical marauders, in one of their descents on Jersey, murdered St. Helier, a pious recluse, whose cell, on a rock near Elizabeth Castle, is still extant; but being converted to Christianity, those barbarous heathens, from being persecutors of the Christian faith, became some of its most zealous advocates.

This wanton outrage on the unoffending hermit led to the foundation of an abbey. Hammon, the son of the barbarous chief who committed the bloody deed, probably to atone for the crime of his father, founded an abbey on the spot where the murder was committed; and he richly endowed it for the support of canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, who were placed in it: this abbey must at this time have stood in a pleasant valley, joined to the mainland of the Island.*

The Norman abbots were lords of several good manors in Jersey, and had the former priories reduced to cells, and

* Upon this rock was "formerly a religious house of monks, devolved to the crown in Henry VIII.'s time, with the rest of the Abbey lands in the Island: distant from the town of St. Helier about a mile, in a fair sandy bay, formerly meadows, belonging to the said monks, on whom with other things they were bestowed by Henry II., as may be seen in a record of the Exchequer, anno 1328; but when it was overflowed is uncertain."

Dumaresq: MS. Survey, 1685.

Subsequent researches have informed us that a violent inundation took place along the coast of Normandy, and in St. Michael's bay, in the year 709. It must therefore have been at this time that the low lands on the coast of Jersey were overflowed, and the meadows spoken of by Dumaresque were converted into a bay—now called "St. Aubin's bay."

dependencies on their houses. They were patrons of all the churches, and shared the tithes belonging to them, leaving only a very small portion for the officiating minister.

Richard I. of Normandy, began a religious persecution in the early part of his reign : his pretence was, that many of his subjects were wasting the prime of their life in, what he called, "religious idleness;" and he seized the ecclesiastical revenues, which reduced the number of the clergy in his dominions : many who could no longer be maintained on their benefices fled, others succeeded in establishing monastic institutions. The Benedictines that were reduced in Normandy retired to Guernsey, and founded, in the year 962, an abbey in that part of the Island near Vale Castle.

This account was transmitted by Popish historians : other accounts state that he suppressed those only in which the scandalous lives of the monks were the most notorious : this seems the more probable, as, in some instances, the monasteries were not suppressed, but the monks removed, and their place supplied by those of a different order.

Duke Robert, the grandson of Richard, and the father of William the Conqueror, founded other monasteries in both Islands, and in gratitude to the abbot of St. Michael's, in Guernsey, for assistance rendered to him when in danger of shipwreck, as has been already related*, he granted a large portion of land, and many privileges, by which it was greatly enriched, and the abbot obtained considerable power in the Island.

Under the reign of King John, these Islands were annexed to the see of Exeter, but did not so continue long, devolving again to the Bishop of Coutance, under whose jurisdiction they continued till the time of Elizabeth, when they were annexed to the see of Winchester.

* See General History.

During the reign of Henry I., three parish churches were built in Guernsey; St. Sampson's in 1111; St. Michael's in 1117; St. Philip of Torteval in 1130; besides the chapel of the priory of Lihou. The church of Torteval was built by Philip de Carteret, of Jersey, who, while in danger of shipwreck, vowed that, if brought safe to land, he would build a church near the spot. He landed in Rocquaine harbour, in the parish of Torteval, where he fulfilled his promise by building the church.*

During the reign of Henry II., three other churches were built in Guernsey, or rather consecrated in that reign: St. Saviour's in 1154; St. Margaret's in 1163; and St. Peter's in 1167. The other two were built during the reign of John.

All the churches in Jersey were built between the years 1111 and 1204:—St. Brelade's, the most ancient on the Island, was consecrated during the former year, and St. John's in August 4th in the latter,—except the three following, which are of later date: Grouville, in 1312; St. Mary's, in 1320; and St. Helier's, in 1341.

Nothing particular occurred in the ecclesiastical history of the Islands from this period, until the time of the Reformation, when the monasteries, following the fate of those in England, were suppressed, and the English liturgy, translated into French, was sent hither.

On the accession of Queen Mary to the throne, popery was restored. Poulet, a popish dean, was appointed to that office A.D. 1555. During this period, the protestants in France being cruelly persecuted, many of their ministers came over to Jersey. They increased so much during the reign of Elizabeth, that they addressed that princess, to allow them to establish the Genevan mode of worship, instead of the use of the liturgy: this was refused by an order in council, dated Aug. 7, 1565, as respects the whole of the

* This church has been taken down, and a new building erected.

parishes in the Islands, but granted on behalf of St. Helier's, in Jersey, and St. Peter's Port, in Guernsey ; it appears, however, that this order was not strictly observed, for the discipline* of Calvin was adopted in all the parishes of the Islands, and without a remonstrance from any party : this may easily be accounted for, from the circumstance of the inhabitants almost universally approving that mode of discipline and worship, as well as its being favoured by the then governor, Sir Hugh Pawlett.

James, in the first year of his reign, confirmed this, with the understanding† that it was so granted by the order of Elizabeth ; but in the short space of twenty years, so material a change came over the minds of the islanders on this subject, and partly assisted by disputes between the governor and the colloquy, about the right of presentation to vacant benefices, that in the twenty-first year of James, an address was presented to the king, to the effect that he would restore the office of the dean, and the use of the liturgy. The Rev. David Bandinel was appointed the first dean, with instructions, conjointly with the ministers, to draw up a body of canons to be approved by the king : these were submitted to archbishop Abbot, the lord keeper Williams, and Andrews, bishop of Winchester, and after

* This was settled by a convocation of the Islands, in the year 1576. This discipline consisted of three orders, or assemblies of men, with authority one above the other. 1st.—The *Consistory*, or minister and elders of the church ; they met every Sunday. 2nd.—The *Colloque*, or the assembly of the ministers and elders of the whole island ; these met four times in the year, to receive the reports, and to regulate the affairs of the Consistories. 3rd.—The *Synod*, or an assembly of ministers and elders deputed by the Colloque ; these assembled once in the year, alternately, in Jersey and Guernsey. The ministers of Alderney and Serk were allowed to attend the Colloque in Guernsey, once in the year. One of their rules states, "In every synod there shall be a minister chosen to govern the action, and a scribe to register the actions : " more concisely expressed in modern phraseology, by a chairman and secretary.

† Falle states it was by a false representation, that this privilege was granted by James.

several corrections made by them, and approval by the king, were transmitted to Jersey, to have the force of laws in matters ecclesiastical, as they have to this day. This measure, however, did not entirely supersede the use of the Genevan discipline. It must have existed to a considerable extent, and for a considerable time after the restoration of the church establishment, as, in the year 1642, towards the close of the reign of Charles I., the synod met, and confirmed the original orders by which the Island was governed.*

* It may amuse the reader to quote a few of the rules on an interesting subject. On the order respecting marriage; Act 1 required, "that all promises of marriage be made in the presense of parents, friends, governors, or masters or mistresses of the parties; and with consent of them, or in the presense of ministers, elders, or deacons;" and it is added, "as for those that are at their owne libertie, the presence of the minister, or one of the elders or deacons, is also necessary for the policie." Act 2 states, "The children, and those that are under government, cannot make any promise of marriage, without the consent of their fathers and mothers, or of their tutors, or of their guardians, in whose power they are." Act 3. "If the fathers and mothers are so unreasonable, that they will not accord to so holy a thing, the Consistory shall give them such advice as shall be expedient, to the which, if the fathers and mothers will not agree, they shall have recourse to the magistrate." Act 4. "Even those which have been married, owe this honour to their parents, not to marry themselves, without the advice of their parents; for the want thereof they shall be censured." Act 5. "Those that shall be betrothed, shall promise with their parents, that they shall be married within three months after their promises are made, or in six months, in case they be on a voyage: and if they will not obey, they shall be pursued by ecclesiasticall censures." Act 6. "No stranger shall be betrothed without the consent of the governor, or of his leiftenants." Act 11. "Those who have accompanied together before they are married, shall not be married before they have made confession of their fault; and if the fault be openly known, they shall doe it before all the church; and if it be less knowne, the Consistory shall give order for it." Act 12. "The promises of widdowes that would remarry themselves, shall not be received, but six months after the death of the deceased husband; that both for the honestie and well seemlinesse, and to meet with many inconveniences. As for the men, they shall be exhorted to stay a certain time also, without constraining them thereunto."—Extract from "*the Orders for Ecclesiastical Discipline, by the ministers, elders, and deacons of the isles of Garnsey, Gersey, Spark, and Alderney: Confirmed by the authoritie of the aforesaid isles. Printed in the yeare 1642.*"

Guernsey was subject to the Genevan church discipline at the same time, and for a considerable time after Jersey had returned to the communion of the Church of England: this may be partly accounted for, by the circumstance of the governor, Sir Thomas Leighton, being favourable to the former, while the governor of Jersey favoured the latter. Guernsey did not conform until the passing of the Act of Uniformity. John de Saumerez was the first dean on the restoration of episcopacy.

It was the intention of James II. again to introduce the Roman Catholic religion into Jersey. With this view, he began by sending officers and soldiers of that persuasion, as a garrison, into Elizabeth Castle. His design was, however, delayed by the policy of the magistrates, and finally rendered abortive by the revolution of 1688; since which time, nothing material has taken place in the ecclesiastical constitution of the Islands.

Queen Elizabeth founded a free Grammar School in Guernsey, in the year 1563, called, after her name, Elizabeth College, and endowed it with certain lands and rents, which have so increased in amount, that they are now of considerable value.

Charles I. granted three fellowships in Oxford, for the two Islands, in Exeter, Jesus, and Pembroke Colleges; and there have been since added five exhibitions, three for Jersey, and two for Guernsey.

After this brief sketch of the ecclesiastical affairs of the Island, the present state of its religious establishments and services will claim attention.

The number of beneficed clergy, or incumbents, including the dean, is just equal to that of the parishes, the canons of Jersey absolutely forbidding pluralities. The dean is always one of the rectors. Here is a regular spiritual court, of which the dean is the head: the other eleven rectors are

his assessors. This court has attached to it a greffier or register, two advocates or proctors, with an apparitor to execute its summonses. Three ministers, including the dean, or vice-dean, are sufficient to form a court. Appeals may be made from this tribunal to the bishop of Winchester, as superior ordinary ; or, in case of a vacancy in that see, to the archbishop of Canterbury ; such appeals must be heard by the prelate in person.

Before the dean, as surrogate to the bishop, the wills of persons dying in the Island are proved and registered, and from him administrations are obtained of persons dying intestate, copies of which are transmitted to the Bishop's Court at Winchester. The dean has likewise the power of granting licences for private marriage ; and as these are not expensive, the practice of marrying in private is very commonly adopted.

The rectors are entitled to the small tithes, and, though only in some instances, to a part of the great tithes : the remainder of these belongs principally to the crown, and forms a part of the governor's salary. Thus, instead of being rectories, the livings may with more propriety be denominated vicarages. The repairs necessary for every parsonage house are done at the expense of the parish ; so that the heirs of a deceased rector are not liable to those dilapidations that sometimes, in England, fall so heavily on a widowed family.

When the revenues of the churches were seized, the patronage fell to the sovereign, who has since ceded it to the governors ; but the crown still nominates to the deanery, and, by the canons of James I., " the dean shall be a master of arts, or a graduate in the civil law, at the least, and the originaries or natives of the Island shall be preferred before others to the ministry." It is also ordained that the dean be not less than thirty years of age.

There is a church in every parish, and a chapel con-

nected with the Establishment, at St. Aubin: this was erected by subscription; and the proprietors possess the right of electing the minister. A chapel of ease to the parish church of St. Laurence, has been lately built near the road leading from St. Helier to St. Aubin. The chaplainship of Elizabeth Castle is a distinct military appointment.

By the before-mentioned canons, "no conventicle, or congregation, shall be suffered to make sect apart, or withdraw themselves from the ecclesiastical government established in the island." This exclusive regulation is no longer enforced: so that now here are Independents, Wesleyan Methodists, Catholics, Quakers, and a few Jews. The first two mentioned sects have, of late years, rapidly increased. The Independents and the Methodists have each spacious chapels at St. Helier; and there are also conventicles of both persuasions in other parts of the Island, as well as Baptists. The Roman Catholics have likewise two places of worship.*

Two regular church services are appointed for every Sunday in the parish churches: one of these is now, in some of the parishes, performed in the English language. At St. Helier's there is, in addition, an evening service. There is also a chapel of ease to the parish church, in which the service is performed morning and afternoon. There are likewise two neat episcopal chapels, St. Paul's and St. James's, in which it is performed in English: these are both modern erections; the former was built in 1818, the latter in 1829. (*See Appendix.*)

The bishop not residing in the Island, young persons are not obliged to be confirmed previously to their partaking of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper: they are however

* For a list of these chapels, and the time of celebrating public worship, both in Jersey and Guernsey, the reader is referred to the Appendix.

assembled by a minister, examined, and admonished : thus are they received into the communion of the Church of England. The bishop of Winchester has, however, several times of late years, visited the Island for the purpose of confirmation.

There are, in Jersey, two free grammar schools, each for the children of six parishes ; one in St. Saviour's parish, called St. Manlier's ; the other in the parish of St. Peter, called St. Athanasius's ; but as the endowments are small, the masters usually take boarders, or adopt other means to increase their income ; that at St. Manlier's has lately been much improved by large additions to the original building. They were founded in A.D. 1498.

Every parish has a fund, supported by legacies, for keeping the church and the parsonage house in repair. The poor are likewise maintained by legacies, by poor's boxes, collections at the church doors, and by a rate when necessary : extraordinary cases of distress or misfortune are frequently relieved, and liberally so, by private contributions.

Two public schools for the instruction of poor children, of both sexes, were established, by voluntary subscriptions, a few years since. The plan has recently been extended, and is now in successful operation.*

* For information respecting other societies, established for the benefit of the Island, the reader is also referred to the Appendix.

CHAPTER II.

NAME, SITUATION, FORM AND EXTENT, APPEARANCE, TIDES, HIGHWAYS, MILITARY ROADS, FORTIFICATIONS, REGULAR AND ISLAND TROOPS.

JERSEY has been variously written : Gearsey, Gersey, and Jeresey*, and is supposed to have been derived from *Cæsarea*, by which name it was known to the Romans, as appears by the Itinerary of Antoninus. It has been attempted to be proved that it was called *Augia*, previously to its possession by that people : by this name it was indeed given by Childebert, king of France, to Samson, archbishop of Dol, in Armorica, about A.D. 550 : but as this was subsequent to the declension of the Roman power in Gaul, it rather proves that the change was from *Cæsarea* to *Augia*. It is however more than probable that this was the original name, and that *Cæsarea* was given to it while the Romans held possession of the Island, and that the inhabitants restored its ancient name on its being evacuated. *Augia*, means the high Island.

The N.W. point of Jersey is situated in north latitude $49^{\circ} 16'$, and in $2^{\circ} 22'$ longitude west of London. It forms the most southern island of that group†, which lies in St. Michael's bay, on the coast of Lower Normandy and Britany. That ample gulf sweeps from Cap de la Hogue, in the former province, to Cap de Frehelle, in the latter.

* So spelled in the records of the Tower and Exchequer.

† This group is composed of the following islands, viz. Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Serk : with the smaller ones of Herm and Jethou, and the rocky islets of Chausey, Ecrehou, &c.

The distance from Jersey to Carteret, or to Port Bail, which are the two nearest French ports, is somewhat more than five leagues.

To Granville, eight leagues :

To St. Malo, ten leagues :

To Guernsey, five leagues, from the two nearest points of land : from port to port nine leagues :

To Alderney, ten leagues :

To Weymouth, twenty-eight leagues :

To Plymouth, forty leagues :

To the Isle of Wight, thirty leagues :

To Southampton, forty leagues.

The form of this Island is that of an irregular parallelogram. Its greatest length, from S.E. to N.W., is about twelve miles ; and the average breadth may be estimated at full five miles : the width does not in any part exceed seven miles. By a very accurate measurement, it contains a superficies of between thirty-nine and forty thousand acres.

Jersey exhibits an inclined plane : part of its eastern coast, commencing at Mont Orgueil, and the whole of its northern shore, form one continuous range of rocks, rising abruptly from the ocean, frequently to an elevation of from forty to fifty fathoms. This natural defence renders the Island, in those quarters, nearly inaccessible. The rocks exteriorly, are, in general, mere naked ridges, projecting their sharp angles into the sea ; thus adding to the rapidity of the currents, and varying their courses. In several places the rocks are loosely blended with other terrene combinations, or are in a state of great disintegration ; hence many deeply indented inlets, and sundry excavations, have been formed by tides, rising, occasionally, to forty or fifty feet in perpendicular height. From these rugged cliffs the land declines towards the southern coast, which, in several places, is nearly on a level with the sea. In this

respect, Jersey displays a striking contrast with Guernsey, the southern boundary of which shoots up in high rocks from the south, and declines towards the north.

This contraposition is supposed to occasion that considerable difference in the nature of the soil, and in the temperature of the atmosphere, in the two Islands, which the trifling distance between them seems otherwise to render inexplicable. In the case of Jersey, the Island generally receives the full power of the sun's rays; whereas Guernsey receives them obliquely.

In general, the strata run from north to south, thus following the form of the Island; but those layers are usually more inclined than the regular declination of the surface.

From the wedge-like form of Jersey, it must be evident that little table-land exists in the Island; nor is the surface a widely extended declivity: it is mostly composed of elevated parts, running from north to south, intersected by deep, and, in general, by narrow vales. The sides, or coteaux, of these eminences are frequently steep and craggy. They follow the inclined course of the Island; so likewise do the numerous rivulets of excellent water that flow through the valleys; these receive the tributary streamlets, that issue from so many sources, that perhaps no spot in the universe is more amply furnished. The comparatively long course of these rivulets is particularly advantageous to so small an island: several corn mills are worked by them.

Though Jersey may be considered as an aggregate of different rocky substances, moulded into a single irregular heap, yet its western, its southern, and parts of its eastern shores, are scooped into open sandy bays, separated from each other by solid projecting masses. The principal of those inlets are the bays of St. Catherine,

Rosel, Boulay, De Lecq, St. Ouen, St. Brelade, St. Aubin, and Grouville. In tracing the marine line, it begins with the continued range of rocks, at Mont Orgueil, on the eastern side : proceeding from this spot, and skirting the whole northern boundary, until, doubling the point at Grosnez, we reach a rugged mass, called L'Etac. Here an extensive curve, like the segment of an immense circle, comprises a moiety of the western shore : and this sweep receives the full unbroken waves of the Atlantic ocean. At the southern extremity of this too frequently boisterous bay, the cliffs rise again to a considerable height, and continue to a well-known rocky pile, called La Corbiere : thence, turning eastward, they line the southern coast, until they touch the town of St. Aubin, situated in a beautiful bay of the same name. Passing that town, the rocks recede inland, until a projection takes place at Mont Cochon, and another at le Mont Patibulaire : further on lies the sandy plain, on which stands the town of St. Helier. Immediately beyond this spot rises the insulated rock, formerly called Le Mont de la Ville, on which now stands Fort Regent, which extends to Havre des Pas. Here the eminences, that form a lofty sea wall, terminate ; and the remaining part of the coast, from this inlet to Mont Orgueil, is flat, and so low as to be occasionally subject to partial inundations.

Thus is Jersey nearly encircled by natural defences. It is to a greater degree protected by a chain of rocks that rise about a league from the shore, on the north-eastern and northern sides. They are called Ecrehou, Les Dirouilles, and Les Pierres de Lecq, or the Paternosters, having a narrow rocky passage between each. To the south, but more distant from the land, lies another ledge, named Les Minquiers ; and, to the south-east, but still further from Jersey, is the small rugged island of Chausey.

These and a great variety of smaller protuberances*, both above and below the surface, in different parts of the surrounding ocean, constitute a most formidable barrier. Nor are these all;—this immense assemblage of rocks, by obstructing the natural course of the tides, produces a number of strong and diversified currents, which contribute a great accession of strength to the other natural outworks.

It is a very probable conjecture, that many of the adjacent rocks were originally part of the Island itself; but separated from it by the force of violent tempests. On the southern, the eastern, and the western sides, there are incontrovertible proofs that large portions of useful land have been ingulfed; and strong sea banks are found, in many places, necessary to prevent further encroachments.

There is a legendary tradition, that this Island was once so contiguous to France, that persons passed over, on a plank, or a bridge, paying a small toll to the abbey of Coutances. That all the Islands in this quarter formed a portion of the continent itself, does not seem very improbable; their external appearance evidences some dreadful convulsion: but it may well be questioned, whether any disruption of nature has taken place since the flood, sufficient to cause so mighty a change.

There is something very extraordinary in the tides that flow and ebb among these Islands. The directions they follow seem totally uninfluenced by others in the Channel. They receive indeed their momentum at its mouth, but take different impulses, from the various obstructions that

* Most of the rocks that rise above high water mark are distinguished by a particular name, which is well known to the fishermen, and to the farmers who resort to them during the seasons for cutting *vraic*.

divert the regularity of their course. They flow E. S. E. to the bay of Mont St. Michael. The declivity of the shore, in this gulf, is so inconsiderable, that the common extent of the tide is from twelve to sixteen miles; and the bay is filled in the short space of two hours. When this is effected, a new direction takes place. The saturated inlet resists a greater accession, and the water is impelled along the Norman coast, northwards, until, in the course of twelve hours, it has encircled the Islands, and returned to the spot from whence it began to flow. The currents, from being frequently intersected, succeed each other so rapidly, that they are in continual motion, and there is no appearance of still water in these parts, as in the Channel, at low ebb.

These tides rise from forty to forty-five feet, round the Islands: at St. Malo their height is said to be near sixty feet.

It will readily be conceived, that such an immense body of water, rising, in the space of six hours, to so great an elevation, and diverted from its natural course by so many intervening obstructions, must necessarily produce a variety of impetuous currents, running in different directions; and must likewise form many submarine banks. These circumstances apply more particularly to Jersey than to the neighbouring Islands; for though the bottom of the sea, in the open parts, is tolerably uniform, and the depth may be averaged at from thirty-five to forty fathoms, yet it is said to be more variable on the coast of Jersey than round either of the other Islands.

It is high water at Jersey about six o'clock, at every new and full moon: but as the flood commences by rushing full against the rocks on the northern shore, it is high water half an hour earlier on that and on the western side, than on the southern and eastern shores.

Though there is good anchorage at Boulay bay, St.

Aubin's bay, and at other inlets round the coast, yet not one of them is land-locked; and the two ports of St. Helier and St. Aubin are both dry at low water. To remedy this last defect, it has been suggested that a safe and commodious harbour might be constructed at Boulay bay, as there is always a considerable depth of water there; but this suggestion has not been acted on, and probably never will.*

The following remarks, in reference to the tides, are extracted from a paper published by the Geological Society, presented by Dr. Macculloch:—"The great wave which enters from the Atlantic, striking directly against the projecting coast of Normandy, first fills the bay, and then continues its course along the Islands, and round la Hogue, up the English Channel; where its passage being narrowed and diverted by the land, it forms those currents, of which the rapidity is such, as in some places, it is said, to amount to six miles an hour.

"Neither from my own observations, nor from the traditions of the inhabitants, nor from ancient record, have I been able to trace much alteration in the level of the sea, or any considerable change in the positions of the harbours, or the depths of the soundings. Indeed, the shores in general being high, small changes of level are more likely to escape notice; and the rocks being of a firm constitution, and belonging to a country without rivers, and almost without ice, escape some of the ordinary causes of decay."—*Geological Transactions*, vol. 1.

The highways were formerly of different widths, and

* Although there is a good depth of water at all times in Boulay bay, as a harbour for mercantile shipping it would be useless, or nearly so, on account of the great acclivity of the land from the sea, which would increase the difficulty and expence of cartage to St. Helier, the grand emporium of the Island. It is better adapted for an anchoring ground for ships of war, during a state of hostility.

were under strict regulations in this respect, when they were originally formed. They are thus described in a MS. in the British Museum* :—" There are in Jerseye three kindes of ways : *Le Chemin de Roy*, the king's highway, which is to be of the breadth of twelve foot, besides four foot on eache side by the hedge ; in all sixteene foot.† *Le Chemin de huitte pieds*, of eight foot in the midle, and foure foot on both sides, in all twelve foot ; and lastly, *Le Chemin de quatre pieds*, or four-foot way, for footmen or carriadgrs (carriers) on horseback."†

These were the only roads of which the Islands could boast, until the new military roads were made by General Don ; and they were generally, indeed nearly all, in a miserable condition, as may still be seen by those that remain ; but many of these roads have been widened and formed after the manner of those in England, and are almost in every respect equal to them. They have proved a great advantage to the Island, which is now acknowledged by the inhabitants, although a violent opposition was at first raised against the plan—so great indeed that nothing but the most resolute perseverance on the part of the governor could

* This is a small 4to volume, very neatly written, elegantly bound, and richly ornamented : on the first leaf is a note, by which it appears to have belonged to James the Second ; it was written during the reign of the second Charles.

† This discrepancy in the measurement is explained, by observing that the footpath ran sometimes on one side of the same road, and sometimes on the other ; so that the width did not exceed sixteen feet.

‡ There were also other roads, called Perquages, extending from each church to the sea. Any person who had committed a crime, and taken refuge in the church, as a sanctuary, and remained there nine days, and afterwards swore to leave the island and never to return, was allowed the privilege of these Perquages to depart, but if deviating from them, was liable to be seized, and suffer the penalty of the law : this privilege was abolished at the Reformation, and the roads given to Sir Edward Carteret, and by him disposed of to those who had lands adjoining, and having been brought into cultivation, all traces of them are now lost.

have succeeded in removing it; but so satisfied was he of the ultimate success and advantage of his plan, that he declared, "I will do them good in spite of themselves, and they will hereafter experience and acknowledge it:" this has been fully verified in both respects.

The widening of the roads has in general been effected without incroachment on the land on either side: between the roads and the fields there was usually a mound of earth, rather than what is understood by a bank in England, having a base very considerably wider than the top: this having been cut away on the road side to nearly a perpendicular, has given sufficient width, leaving the other side, and consequently the field itself, untouched. It has, however, been necessary in some cases to encroach on private property: when this occurred, compensation was awarded to the proprietor of the land.

Though, in time of war, the chief defence of Jersey must necessarily be confided to the regular troops, yet the Island force is considerable and well disciplined.

The militia comprises six regiments or battalions of infantry, amounting to more than 2500 men. To each corps is attached four field-pieces, and a company of artillery: these form a body of between 600 and 700 men, and are when exercised formed into a battalion. All the island troops are armed, and clothed in proper uniforms, by government, but do not receive pay. They are frequently drilled; and during war mount guard every night, at different stations round the Island.

Every inhabitant, from the age of nineteen to sixty-five, is by law obliged to bear arms, either as an officer or a private; and all boys, from the age of sixteen to eighteen, are exercised, weekly, during the summer months. This juvenile corps is upwards of a thousand strong. There are likewise a few troopers attached to each regiment, whose

duty is to serve as orderly-men and guides : the artillery also is mounted.

The militia staff consists of inspectors and assistant inspectors ; and the whole island force is under strict military regulations : though the governor, or lieutenant-governor, appoints the officers, and has command over them, yet they are not subject to the powers of a court martial, but delinquents are tried and punished by the Royal Court.*

The regular troops, in time of war, generally amount to about 7000 men : the peace establishment does not exceed 300.

The principal fortifications are, Fort Regent, Elizabeth castle, that of Mont Orgueil, Fort Henry, La Rocco, St. Aubin's tower, Seymour tower, with the tower of Noirmont point, and that at Ich-ho. Besides these, there is a chain of martello towers, redoubts, and batteries, in every maritime part of the Island where defences are requisite. As an additional security, Jersey and Guernsey together form a station for ships of war. There are, likewise, in Jersey four signal posts, on different elevated parts, which during war are increased, so that a telegraphic communication is established round the Island.

There are barracks for the regular troops in different parts of the Island : a very handsome and extensive range of buildings was erected, at the close of the last war, in St. Peter's parish.

* The militia is now called the " Royal Jersey Militia : " it obtained that distinction by an ordinance of his late Majesty, William the Fourth, in 1831, on the fiftieth anniversary of its gallant resistance under Major Pierson, to the French invasion of the Island, January 6, 1781. (*See General History.*)

CHAPTER III.

DIVISION, ENCLOSURES, POPULATION, LANGUAGE, DRESS, AND PECULIAR CUSTOMS.

THE Island is divided into twelve parishes; these are Trinity, St. John's, and St. Mary's, on the north; St. Ouen's, St. Peter's, and St. Brelade's, on the west; St. Lawrence's, St. Helier's, and St. Saviour's, on the south; St. Clement's, Grouville, and St. Martin's, on the east. These, with the exception of the parish of St. Ouen, are again divided into vintaines.* The divisions in that parish are called Cuillettes†. All present a large coast to the sea, except St. Saviour's, and even this has one small point of contact.

As the law of inheritance frequently causes a division of property among the children on the death of the proprietor, the land is necessarily divided into small estates; this of course occasions corresponding enclosures. These circumscribed portions are surrounded with banks of several feet in height and thickness. Many are even faced with stone, so as to have the appearance of ramparts; and most

* This sub-division is the same as in England into hundreds, and the name in both cases explains itself. As in England the division was into hundreds, or a space occupied by a hundred houses, so in Jersey by "Vintaines," or where there were twenty houses.

† This was originally a private arrangement made by the seigneur for his own convenience, and who at that time probably possessed the whole parish: he divided it into two parts, for the purpose of making the collections more easily; hence the term "Cuillettes" or gatherings.

of them have hedges, or trees, planted on their summits.* It is difficult to ascertain why so extraordinary a waste of ground, on such limited estates, and in so small an island, should have been introduced, and still more so that it should have become a general custom. The approach to houses in the country, above those of the lower class of farmers, is through a long and narrow avenue, called *une chassee*; this likewise is, in most cases, an unprofitable use of ground. Besides the waste occasioned by these circumstances, which are to a certain extent unavoidable, there is not much land uncultivated: there are, however, some tracts of marshy ground, and other parts towards the north, that might be made productive.

In 1734, the population of Jersey was estimated at 20,000 souls.

By the census, taken in 1806, the total number of inhabitants was 22,855: it appears, therefore, that there was not any material increase during the seventy years between those two periods. It will not be interesting to the stranger to detail the population of the respective parishes, as given in the report to parliament, but the following will show the increase that has taken place since the latter period, in the whole Island:—

In 1821, the population was	25,600
In 1831	36,582
In 1841	47,556,

which shows the rapid increase of the population since the peace. Although Jersey may in some respects be benefited by a war, and especially with France, yet the steady and increasing commerce which has attended her since the

* In the environs of St. Helier, most of these banks have been removed, and replaced by neat stone walls: young trees have also in several parts been planted, and which have added to this improvement.

peace, and the influx of visitors as well as residents, prove that the latter is more to her advantage. The population of the parish of St. Helier is somewhat more than two-fifths of the whole Island.

Supposing therefore the area of Jersey to contain sixty-two square miles and a half, or 40,000 acres, the number of inhabitants will form an average of 365 2-3 in every square mile; whereas the average for England and Wales is computed at not more than 192; thus it appears that, with the exception of Holland and the Netherlands, Jersey is more populous than any other part of Europe.

The number of houses, during the three periods mentioned above, was as follows:—

	1821.	1831.	1841.
Inhabited . . .	4053	4990	6671
Uninhabited . . .	41	115	254
Building . . .	28	50	134
	4122	5155	7059

A reference to the returns for Guernsey (*see Guernsey*) will exhibit the curious fact, that while the population in the two Islands proceeded in nearly an equal ratio from 1821 to 1831, that is, between 25 and 26 per cent.; from 1831 to 1841, the increase in Jersey was 30 per cent., while that of Guernsey was only 9 per cent. This declension is further borne out by a comparative view of the number of houses, both uninhabited and now in progress of building. The parliamentary returns show about the same number in both Islands uninhabited, notwithstanding the difference of population; while in Jersey the number of new houses now in progress of building is 134, and in Guernsey there are only 30.

The English residents may be computed at between 4000 and 5000, besides tradesmen; of whom a considerable

number has been attracted to the Island by its increasing trade and comparatively cheap living. It has been observed, that no place contains so large a proportion of English, except Paris, Rome, Florence, and Brussels: this may be true, but the comparison between these places and Jersey is not correct, inasmuch as Jersey is not, strictly speaking, a foreign country.

The vernacular language is French. Divine service and preaching, the pleadings at court, and the public acts, are all in good French; though, in legal documents, some obsolete forensic terms are still retained. The upper ranks understand and speak the French language in its purity; but in their conversation with the lower classes, they usually converse in the provincial tongue, or, as it is called, Jersey French. This is a heterogeneous compound of old French, intermixed with modern expressions and gallicised English words*; it is pronounced, especially in the country districts, with a most determined *patois*. English is, however, becoming daily more and more prevalent; and there is scarcely a countryman who does not now understand somewhat of the language; although to the same class of persons, not more than fifty years ago, it was perfectly unintelligible.

The internal communication throughout the Island having been of late much promoted, and the intercourse with Great Britain considerably increased, has very much added to the general diffusion of the English language; and the number of British troops stationed in the Island during the war, has likewise contributed to its more general use. If more encouragement were given, by

* This remark applies particularly to the dialect spoken by the inhabitants who have the most frequent communication with the town: a few years ago, before the intercourse with England became so intimate, the language spoken by the country people was the pure French of some four or five centuries past.

discontinuing preaching and pleading in French, Jersey would be, in a few years, in every respect as it should be, an English island.

If we consider the state of society in Jersey 200 years ago, when the intercourse with England and France was comparatively limited, and before the inhabitants had learnt to imitate the customs and fashions of either country,—at a time when we are led to contemplate them as simple and unaffected, it might be supposed that sumptuary laws were unnecessary; but it appears that this was not the case: whether the lower orders were not so simple as we are led to consider them, or whether the members of the States at that time were rigid puritans, we are not informed; but an order of the court was made in 1636, to remedy abuses in the dress of the lower classes, as well in excess of clothing, as in lace and silk hoods, above their condition: such “females are forbidden to wear lace of above fifteen sols per yard, and that for the hood only, or to use silken hoods, tied, which,” says this curious decree, “*belongs only to the rank of ladies.*”

The usual dress of the old farmer was a large body-coat, a cocked hat, and thin *queue à la française*; and among females, the short jacket, or bed-gown, and coarse red petticoat, formed the prevailing costume. This mode of dress still continues in the country, with the exception that the black petticoat has been substituted for the red. Secluded, in a great measure, from the circles of fashion and commerce, they lived in a kind of insulated manner, and thus retained the modes and customs of their ancestors.

Not many years since it was an uncommon occurrence for a Jersey farmer to lay out any money on dress; most of the articles of his clothing were not only woven at home, the knitting needle being in such constant use, and

nearly all made of worsted, but were either made up under his own roof, or at a very small cost by female tailors, who were principally employed in this trade. The same circumstances which have operated to assimilate the Jersey character to that of the English, have also had their influence in this respect; and the very cheap rate at which articles of clothing are now brought from England, and sold in the town, has led in a great measure to a discontinuance of this practice. It need scarcely be observed, that the style of dress which prevails among the middle and higher orders, is the same as in England.

The great intercourse with England during the war, and the greater connection that this occasioned between the people of the town and country, have occasioned an early adoption of English fashions, and almost general uniformity of dress throughout the Island; the more aged only, and those engaged on farms, retain the ancient mode of dress: a few more years, and even the short jacket and coarse black petticoat will be no longer seen.

Like the lower classes in England, many inhabitants, even some of rather higher order, assemble in jovial parties on Easter Monday. The most general place of rendezvous is near Mont Orgueil. During the month of May, the environs of St. Helier are, early every morning, crowded with the youth of both sexes, who in groups walk to different farm-houses, for the purpose of drinking milk warm from the cow.

The natives have likewise some customs, that originated from other sources; such as making a particular kind of cake on the festival of All Saints, and the singularly discordant ceremony of *faire braire les poêles**, on the eve of

* For a description of this ceremony, or rather amusement, see TOUR THROUGH THE ISLAND.

St. John's day, which indeed is chiefly practised in the parish named after that apostle.*

The assembling on the "*lit de veille*" is a custom that prevails in both Islands, but particularly in Guernsey. This *lit de veille* is a large low frame, not unlike a stump bedstead, and usually standing in one corner of the room : during the winter evenings, the young of both sexes meet at different houses, and seated on this frame form a circle, their feet meeting in the centre, over which is suspended a lamp, which of course serves to light the whole party : the girls sew or knit, while the young men amuse them by singing or relating stories. Where there is no *lit de veille*, or when the party is large, straw is spread on the floor, on which the assembly sit. It is probable that this custom took its rise from the frugal character of the inhabitants ; one light serving for several persons, and little fire being needed, where so many were assembled in one room ; and for the same reason, probably, the decline of this custom is greater in Jersey than in Guernsey, as the increasing wealth is more diffused in the former than in the latter Island.

At Midsummer the natives of Jersey and Guernsey respectively pay visits to their relations and friends in the sister Island, and these visits are generally prolonged to a considerable time ; the festivities of Christmas are still maintained in a high degree. The declension which has

* These and other customs were, in former times, the general practice, whereas several of them have now fallen into disuse.

Many customs have probably a Celtic origin. There is, in Normandy, during the season of Lent, a ceremony something similar to that formerly practised by the Druids, on May-day, but which is, by the peasants, appropriated to Ceres. They go about with torches, made of different rude materials, and, in a kind of song, invoke that goddess to destroy the moles and field mice, and to grant a plentiful harvest. Part of that district in Normandy, called Le Contentin, still bears the name of le Val de Ceres. May-day is not celebrated in Jersey.

begun in England in this respect, has not yet been extended to Jersey.

Marriages, among all but the lower classes, are generally solemnized in the evening, and by licence, at home. The rite of baptism, if performed in private, must be renewed at the parish church.

When a death occurs in a family, it is usual to send an early notice to relatives and particular friends: these, in return, are expected to pay a visit of condolence, before the inural. A general invitation for relations, friends, and neighbours, to attend the funeral, is then given. A corpse is therefore followed to the grave by a numerous concourse, who, even among the lower ranks, are mostly in mourning: this indeed forms a very general dress of the Island, among the middle and higher classes; intermarriages link so many persons together, that family connexions are extensive, and it is customary to assume the same garb, even for an infant. The interment frequently takes place within a short time after death, and a subsequent visit to the nearest relations is again expected from those who received an early intimation of their friend's decease

CHAPTER IV.

TRADE, COMMERCE, SHIPPING, BANKING, AND MANUFACTURES.

It is of very recent date that the inhabitants of Jersey have attained their present eminence as a commercial community. Dr. Heylin, who visited the Island in the year 1628, and afterwards wrote an account of it, notices the poverty of the inhabitants, which he ascribes to their "dislike of traffic:" he describes the men as principally employed in agriculture, and the women and children in knitting stockings: and so extensive was this trade to France, in the year 1734, when Falle published the second edition of his work, that he computes no less than ten thousand pair were weekly exported from Jersey to Paris, Lyons, and Rouen. It is necessary in some measure to qualify the above remark respecting agriculture: the Island, at that time, as at present, abounded with orchards, and the manufacture of cider constituted the principal employment of the men, which better suited the habits that then prevailed among them, than the most tiresome labour of tilling the ground; and it was probably more profitable.

At this early period of the commercial relations between Jersey and other nations, the States of the Island were not great advocates for the freedom of trade, for they passed a law in the early part of the 17th century, prohibiting several specified articles being sold *wholesale* to the merchants, until they had been offered in *retail* on board the

ships for four days,—corn, salt, and coals were the principal commodities subjected to this regulation. The Royal Court usually fixed the price of labour, and of the common articles of consumption. In 1607 the Viconte or sheriff was directed to see that nothing was brought to the Island but what was useful to the public. That principle in trade which regulates the supply according to the demand, was not so well understood as it is at present, or this would have been left to be regulated by the inhabitants themselves: since more enlarged views have been entertained, and a better line of policy has been adopted by the States, the trade of the Island has increased in a surprising degree. Its commercial relations were formerly almost entirely confined to England and France; Newfoundland* afterwards opened a field to the speculation and enterprize of the Islanders: at the present time they trade with almost every country in Europe, with North and South America, and some of our colonies in the West Indies.

The commerce with England is subjected to several regulations and limitations; principally with a view to prevent any contraband traffic. But every article "of the growth, produce, and manufacture" of Jersey is admitted into the mother country, on payment only of the same duties that are imposed on similar commodities, grown, produced, or manufactured there.

Jersey receives from England manufactured goods, iron, copper, cloth, linen, and cottons; together with coals, crockery, glass-ware, flat paving stone, and a great variety of other useful and ornamental articles. In return she sends to England apples, cider, cows, heifers, potatoes, stone, and oysters.

The produce of the Island exported to foreign parts is

* This branch of commerce declines considerably when Great Britain is engaged in a continental war, so many of the usual markets for salted fish being closed against its subjects.

very inconsiderable. It consists principally of potatoes to Gibraltar and Malta, while the articles imported from abroad, and actually consumed on the island, form a large aggregate amount.

As the whole export of Jersey produce is so extremely inadequate to the imports consumed, it is evident that, without a foreign trade, or an accession of income from other channels, the Island could not support its present increased expenditure. A large additional income is derived from considerable sums spent in the Island by English and other families residing there; but the foreign commercial relations of Jersey are the principal source of wealth to the inhabitants, which has introduced a degree of luxury and expensive living, formerly unknown in the Island.

The late war made, so far as this island was concerned, a great difference, in every respect, from any former state of hostility. It enriched not only the merchants and the retailers, but all the country inhabitants. It greatly increased the value of estates, so that land was then let in the parish of Grouville at the exorbitant rate of five pounds sterling per vergee*; equal to about twelve pounds per acre.

It is a remarkable fact, that Jersey continued to flourish, while every other part of Europe groaned under the most severe pressure. The crowds of emigrants, particularly from France, that sought an asylum in the Island, greatly increased the number of its inhabitants. The military establishments were augmented beyond all precedent, and public works, on an immense scale, were carried on, which brought from England a large body of workmen. This amazing influx of adventitious inhabitants expended their respective incomes in Jersey. The more immediate effects were felt by the retail dealers in the town of St. Helier;

* A vergee is somewhat less than half an acre.

but those effects soon extended through the whole island, and to every description of property. Every article produced in Jersey continually advanced in price, and the usual consequences followed: the large landed proprietors raised the rents of their farms; their tenants reimbursed themselves by increased prices of their produce. The smaller proprietors, accustomed to consume the greater part of their produce, found it more advantageous to sell it. A spirit of enterprize diffused itself among all men of business. The merchants sought out new markets, which the firm policy of Great Britain, by assisting weaker nations in stemming the overwhelming torrent, enabled them to find. The tradesmen, leaving the details of a shop to their wives, likewise became merchants; and, uniting in temporary partnerships, freighted their own vessels with valuable cargoes. Some, in addition to these concerns, added the more hazardous undertaking of fitting out privateers. Great profits were derived from these speculations, and being themselves equally exempt from the burthens and the distresses occasioned by the war, the Islanders thought little of, because they felt not, the horrors and privations it inflicted on others.

After this general view of the commerce of the Island, it will be necessary to enter somewhat more into detail, and the internal trade shall first be presented to the reader. There are no documents published, by which the actual trade within the Island can be known; but it may be fairly presumed, that all the produce that is sold for exportation, and a portion of what is sold for consumption, is brought to a weigh-bridge, of which there are four in the Island, in order that its weight may be ascertained. There are about 25,000 tons weighed at these machines every year, principally of apples and potatoes; but this does not furnish accurate information of the produce of those articles,

as the potatoes used on the farm, or sold at the market for home consumption, and the apples made into cider, are not included in this statement. The produce of the Island will be more particularly noticed in the chapter that treats of that subject.

Iron Foundries are of recent establishment in Jersey : at the present there are several in full operation, and the preparation of leather gives employment to five Tan-yards. Bricks, likewise, were not made on the Island till of very recent date. The actual quantity that is now made cannot be ascertained, as there is no excise to which they are subject, but the number exported in 1835 was upwards of 180,000. The Custom House returns for 1840 give only 59,000 : this diminished quantity must be occasioned by the great increase of building in the Island.

Flour was formerly imported into Jersey in large quantities, principally from England, as water and wind-mills were comparatively few, and of course liable to constant interruption in their working : but since the discovery of steam power, it has been applied to the grinding of corn in the Island, by which a constant supply can be produced, and importation is become unnecessary. The steam-engines are generally of small power, and employed only when there is a deficiency of water.

It is not only in this instance that steam power has been so beneficial to the inhabitants of Jersey : its application to vessels has been of immense advantage to the internal trade of the Island, by bringing it virtually nearer to England ; thus facilitating their constant intercourse, and increasing the number of visitors to the Island. Previous to 1823, when the first steam-boat came to Jersey*,

* An amusing anecdote is told of a well-intentioned man, who, seeing the steamer for the first time from St. Brelade's parish, rode with all haste to St. Helier, to report a vessel on fire, making towards the Island : but his fright was soon changed to astonishment, when he beheld her steadily pursue her course, and at last safely land her unerrified passengers in the harbour.

a passage from Southampton of a week or even ten days, was not a very unusual occurrence; it is now performed in fourteen or sixteen hours, allowing for a short detention in the road of Guernsey, to put on shore the passengers for that Island.

Ship-building is another branch of island trade, which is greatly on the increase; in many parts, at and near the harbour, is constantly to be heard the dock-yard sound of caulking, and other processes used in the building and repairing of ships. To the lower price of carpenter's labour, to that of England, or even of Guernsey, is this in some measure to be ascribed: although this may seemingly operate to the disadvantage of the Jersey workmen, compared to those of Guernsey, it is not really so: the price of labour may be lower, but the employment is more constant. To the builders themselves this is of signal advantage, for a Jersey-built vessel can be launched at from 10 to 15 per cent. less in amount, than the same sized vessel built elsewhere—thus the shipowner reaps a benefit equally with the builder. In addition to this, the wages of seamen are lower in Jersey than in Guernsey, which gives another advantage to the shipowner over his neighbours in the carrying trade, whether on freight, or for himself as a merchant.

Another article of island trade is Shoes, and this to a somewhat considerable extent. A great number is exported to British North America; the quantity sent there may be estimated at from 12,000 to 14,000 pairs of shoes, and from 1000 to 1200 pairs of boots annually; the price is about the same in appearance as those made in country towns in England, and sold in London; but labour being lower here than in England, it is to be presumed that they are of a superior workmanship, and so in reality cheaper. As the export of boots and shoes from Jersey is almost confined to North America, the trade will not be affected

by the new English tariff, which allows foreign competition with the English.

The large quantity of knit-worsted stockings, formerly made in the Island, has already been noticed: some are still made, though to a very small extent: the use of machinery in the making of this article in England, has caused the Jersey-made stockings to be confined to a limited home demand: the export not exceeding 1000 pair annually, and these for the use of persons on the fishing stations in British North America.

The peculiar export of the Island, and for which it is most noted, is that of heifers and cows: these are generally known in England as Alderney cows, but by far the larger proportion are sent from Jersey; Alderney furnishes but a very small number, and the Guernsey cow is of a different character. The peculiarity of the Jersey cow will be more particularly noticed in the chapter on Agriculture. In 1840 there were sent from Jersey 1519 cows and heifers.

Although the produce of a Jersey orchard is principally used in the manufacture of cider, yet it forms a considerable item in its export trade. The quantity of apples usually sent to England is from 200,000 to 250,000 bushels annually: the quantity in 1840 was 230,643 bushels, and 77,842 gallons of cider.

The Oyster Fishery may be said to be a Jersey traffic, for many of the natives are engaged in it: the vessels assemble in Mont Orgueil harbour; which, with its neighbourhood, during the season, presents a scene of amusing activity: men, women, and children, are seen in their several occupations, of filling baskets with oysters, carrying them, and loading the vessels.

This fishery is not only an important, but an ancient branch of Jersey traffic: in the archives of the Royal Court, there is a document, dated 1606, expressing a "conviction

of the influence it possessed in promoting the welfare of the people:" it must therefore have grown up from a period considerably anterior to the above: in 1755, the States again passed laws, regulating its traffic, but the great increase in the trade took place about the year 1797: previously to that time, it was conducted exclusively by Jersey fishermen; but the great quantity brought to England attracted the notice of English speculators, who now participate in its advantages: in its most flourishing years it employed about three hundred vessels, and one thousand five hundred men.

But the island fishermen met with a more vexatious opposition from the French, which led to the issuing of an order in council by the English government in 1822, to protect British interests; and to a convention in 1824, between both governments, by which each nation was to have the exclusive right of dredging for oysters, to the extent of one league from low-water mark, along their respective coasts; the intervening space, between Jersey and France, to be common to both: this convention has been ultimately prejudicial to the Island, from the interpretation which has been given to it, and upon which the French authorities now act; for the beds on which oysters are the most abundant, are, by their construction of it, within the French limits: this, as may naturally be expected, has led to encroachment on the part of the English fishermen, sometimes ignorantly, sometimes wilfully, and on one or two occasions to sanguinary conflicts. The question still occupies the attention of the respective governments, and commissioners have been named by both, for the purpose of arranging the matter, and determining the limits.

Important as is the oyster fishery to the Islanders, it has during the last few years been on the decline: in 1833, there were exported 303,840 bushels of oysters; in 1834,

305,670 ; in 1835, only 149,865 : this diminution is principally occasioned by the successful opposition of the French. This dispute is now on the point of being settled by the commissioners.

The States are, however, unwilling to trust to this uncertain result : with a praiseworthy determination to secure their own interest, should they be disappointed of redress by government, they some years ago voted a sum of money for the laying down of new beds ; and the plan has been carried into effect : it is now in operation, and promises well, for the spawn deposited has given birth to many new oysters, which are increasing, and in a thriving state : these new beds are now thrown open, and vessels may dredge there : this has caused a great increase of the quantity sent to England. The Custom House returns for 1840 give 236,520 bushels.

The oyster fishery commences on the 1st of September, and ends on the 1st of June, but its greatest activity is from February to May. The small oysters are those principally sought for by the merchants ; for after being deposited in the Thames, in parks arranged for the purpose, they increase in size, and yield an additional profit. But the States have fixed a fine, to be levied on any person bringing on shore oysters of a less diameter than $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

The Lobster Fishery is another object, though a very unimportant one, in which the Islanders are engaged ; this has however increased with a few years : in 1832, only 260 dozen were sent to London : the quantity for the four past years averages at about 1000 dozen.

L'industrie d'un nation n'est pas bornée par l'étendue de son territoire, mais bien par celle de ses capitaux.

This remark of a French political economist, is indeed applicable to Jersey : its foreign commerce far exceeds

what might be expected from the size of the Island. The most important and beneficial branch was formerly the fisheries on the coast of British North America. The trade has, however, since the peace, extended itself to the Brazils, and other South American States. It may naturally be expected that, to the inhabitants of an island, fishing would form one of their principal occupations: this was the case at a very early period with respect to Jersey. The Conger-eel fishery is mentioned in the charter granted to the Island by king John. A duty was levied on the export of congers and mackerel, which produced a revenue in the reign of Edward I., of 400 livres tournois, which at that time was a large sum. The congers were salted and sent to those countries with which Jersey at that time had any traffic: for this purpose the larger only were used; the smaller, such as could be spanned round with the hand, were not liable to any duty, and brought on shore for home consumption.

Although this fishery still exists to a limited extent, the consumption is principally confined to the country people: but as a trade it has been superseded by the Newfoundland cod fishery. This began early in the 17th century, and it is by no means an improbable conjecture, that the Islanders were first induced to engage in it by the celebrated Sir Walter Raleigh, who was governor of Jersey from the year 1600 to 1603: it is well known that he was a great advocate for the encouragement of the English fisheries, and he wrote a work on the advantages which the Dutch derived from the occupation, urging his country to engage in similar pursuits. In the reign of Charles II., twenty vessels were employed in the trade: during the war which succeeded the Revolution, it was almost annihilated, but it afterwards revived: for in the year 1732 twenty-seven vessels were engaged in it, and in 1771 forty-five were dispatched to Newfoundland. The number of vessels now

employed is little short of 100, making a total tonnage of 10,000 tons, and giving employment to about 1600 Jersey-men : these usually return to their agricultural labours in the autumn, and bring with them the means of maintaining their families during the winter.

The advantages of the Newfoundland fishery are not confined to the trade, simply considered, but it gives employment to a great number of persons in the making of clothes, boots and shoes ; and to coopers, and other artificers, in the manufacture of barrels, tubs, and other articles necessary to the trade, and to that of Brazil. Some idea will be formed of the advantages to home industry from the statement, that upwards of 16,000 barrels, each containing 128 lb. of cod fish, were shipped from Jersey to the Brazils alone, in the year 1835.

A sensible writer, in reference to the trade of Jersey, has made the following judicious remark :—“ During the last war, privateering offered to capitalists of these Islands the hope of a speedy fortune, and indeed the privateers of the Channel Islands were very successful, and brought large sums to many persons who were interested in them ; but when peace was proclaimed, several who had made a fortune withdrew from business, especially in Guernsey, whose trade, not being established on sure or permanent ground, declined. The Newfoundland trade offered a substratum to our industry, and since the war, the profits of the principal merchants on each commercial transaction may have been less, but industry has increased, and with it our wealth, our commerce, and our prosperity.”

The Island has a direct trade with Sweden and Norway for timber, which, owing to the great increase of buildings, has of late years been considerable : the average annual importation for the last few years, has been about 1400 loads of fir, and about 500 loads of oak timber. The exports

to that kingdom, which are trifling, consist principally of coffee and sugar, the produce of the Brazils.

From Russia are imported cordage, hemp, tallow, and linen, and of late there have been imported a few feet of oak timber. Wheat and barley are the principal articles from Prussia : the average annual importation of the former for the last three years was 15,000 quarters, and of the latter somewhat more than 2000 quarters. Denmark also supplies the Island with grain, which, added to the former quantity, would make the importation of wheat to be about 20,000 quarters annually, and of barley about 3000. Timber and grain are also brought from Hamburg, but not in any great quantities. Salt provisions and flour are imported from the two latter countries. The principal articles supplied to these countries are coffee and sugar, mostly shipped immediately from the Brazils.

With Holland the trade is considerable, consisting in the importation from that country of geneva, cheese, hoops, and tiles. The quantity of geneva imported into the Island depends in a great measure on the price of brandy ; but it averages 50,000 gallons annually, and in the year 1840 the quantity was considerably increased. The exports to Holland are the same as to the other kingdoms of the continent, above alluded to.

The imports from Spain and Portugal are wine, brandy, fruit, and salt. Wine and brandy are also imported from Sicily. The average annual importation from those three kingdoms is about 80,000 gallons of wine, and more than 150,000 gallons of brandy. The Island is principally supplied with oranges and lemons from Sicily.

At Honduras the Jersey merchants have two establishments in the mahogany trade, which employ five ships together, of upwards of 1400 tons burthen. The mahogany is mostly sent to England : the island consumption is not large. The exports to Honduras are flour, potatoes, printed

cotton, linen, stockings, and geneva, but only a small quantity of each.

The trade to the Brazils is not only considerable, but very important : that country consumes a great quantity of the fish furnished by the Jersey trade, and supplies the Island in return with sugar and coffee, a portion of which, as has already been observed, is sent to the continent in exchange for its timber and corn. This trade alone employs twenty vessels, of a total of about 4000 tons. The annual import is about 600 tons of sugar, and upwards of 600,000 lbs. of coffee. The quantity varies annually, through a variety of causes ; for sometimes it may be more convenient to a merchant to land a cargo, and send a part in another vessel to the north, or even the whole, if he require his vessel to proceed forthwith on another voyage ; or the season may be too late for a ship to proceed, and the cargo is stored for the winter, till the navigation with the northern ports is open.

The trade with France is not great, and the exports very inconsiderable ; they consist principally of coals, bricks, and potatoes : French wines, brandies, and live stock form the principle articles of import ; an average of three years would give about 70,000 gallons of the former, 50,000 gallons of the latter, and about 2800 head of oxen, 3000 swine, and 6000 sheep ; fruit also is supplied from France ; a few thousand yards of linens and cottons are annually brought over, probably more on account of the superior taste which the French display in their patterns, than from any advantage in quality or price : muslins and silks are also articles of import. French pottery is much esteemed in Jersey, and a considerable quantity is brought to the Island, as it is considered preferable to the English for the use of the dairy, though stoneware and red pottery are mostly brought from England. France also annually supplies a few thousand feet of oak timber.

The trade with England need scarcely be specified : it supplies a large proportion of the Island consumption—whether raised from her soil or formed by her industry—coals, iron, sail-cloth, hardware, and every article to be made up for clothing ; indeed, England is the general merchant that sells to Jersey. The average importation of coals is somewhat more than 20,000 tons, of which a few tons are reshipped for France.

THE SHIPPING TRADE will next engage the reader's attention. Jersey, like its sister port of Southampton, has known its ebbs and flows of prosperity. It should seem that, at an early period of English history, Jersey employed a greater number of ships in its general trade, than at some subsequent time. In the year 1301, when Edward I. was preparing for the invasion of Scotland, the two Islands were required to furnish 10 vessels* ; a large proportion, considering their small extent.

The general trade certainly afterwards declined, and this of course affected the shipping: the cause of this declension is not known, and probably there are at present no means of tracing it ; very little is known of the trade of the Islands previously to the reign of James I. during which time the cod fishery was established, in which the Islanders took an immediate and an active part. Jersey and the neighbouring Islands had, however, a peculiar privilege, from an early age, of being considered neutral in time of war : this remarkable privilege must have been of great advantage to the belligerents, and especially to the Islanders ; but the discovery of America, and the cod

* The reader need scarcely be informed, that before the time of Henry VII., there was no royal navy ; but the sea-ports were required to furnish to the state a certain number of ships, according to their ability.

fishery established on the banks of Newfoundland, presented to their enterprise an object more substantial and enduring, and seemed to call forth their commercial spirit and activity.

The trade of the Island was originally carried on at Gorey, under the protection of Mont Orgueil Castle; it was afterwards removed to St. Aubin; as we find an order in council directed to the inhabitants in the reign of Edward VI., directing them to raise money "for the speedy reenforcing of the bulwarkes of St. Albons," in order to protect the harbour: this appears to have been enlarged, or probably rebuilt, during the reign of Charles II. by whom an order was issued for levying a duty on spirits for the purpose. At this time the inhabitants of St. Helier commonly used, during summer, a small pier near the sally-port of Elizabeth Castle, and probably built for the sole convenience of that fortress, but being nearer to the town, they were allowed the privilege of using it. The first pier at St. Helier was erected about the middle of the last century; it was very small and inconvenient, which caused the erection of the present harbour, the first stone of which was laid in 1790; about the same time, or soon after, the inhabitants of St. Aubin caused a new pier to be erected near that town, but by far the principal trade is now carried on at St. Helier.*

That a state of peace is advantageous to Jersey, is fully proved by the following statement, which will not be uninteresting to the commercial or inquisitive reader. The Island possessed, at intervals of ten years, the following number of vessels:—

* The trade of Jersey has so increased since the peace, that the present pier, large as it is, is not capable of accommodating all the vessels to unload. A new pier is now in the course of being built, or rather an addition to the present pier, extending seaward.

In 1807.....	76 vessels	6655 tons
— 1817.....	79 —	8167 —
— 1827.....	182 —	16583 —
— 1837.....	244 —	23826 —*

In 1841, the number of vessels amounted to 286, of 27,458 tons.

The harbour dues are not heavy. There was formerly a difference between English and foreign vessels in the amount paid, but this has lately been equalized, and all now pay 6*d.* per ton; if vessels make six voyages in the year, they pay only 4*d.* per ton. The average amount of harbour dues, received at St. Helier, is upwards of £2500 per annum.

* The relative shipping trade of Jersey to that of other ports in the United Kingdom, will be seen by the following number of vessels belonging to each port, at a period intervening between 1827 and 1837, and which shews what a large proportion belongs to the Island: it will also be observed that the average tonnage ranks high:—

London	2669 vessels	565174 tons.
Liverpool	853 —	166028 —
Hull	557 —	68892 —
Greenock	367 —	37791 —
Aberdeen	355 —	41671 —
Dublin	299 —	22972 —
Bristol	296 —	46567 —
Cork	275 —	18019 —
Belfast	255 —	25151 —
Glasgow.....	241 —	41532 —
Jersey	216 —	20250 —

The following is a statement of three alternate years of the arrivals in the harbour of St. Helier, exclusive of the government packets:—

In 1833.....	1076 vessels	78864 tons.
— 1835..	1310 —	101279 —
— 1837.....	1281 —	92377 —

In 1840, the number of vessels that cleared out from the Island was 1275, of 75,215 tons.

The decrease in the number of arrivals since 1835, as exhibited in the above statements, is not to be attributed to a decrease of trade, but probably to the practice of vessels proceeding immediately from the Brazils to a northern port, without touching at Jersey.

It has been observed that vessels are built in Jersey at a lower rate than in Guernsey and in the ports of England. The Island has another advantage in the case of insurance : an island vessel is usually insured at a lower premium than those of the United Kingdom ; at least the underwriters prefer taking them : this may be accounted for from the high reputation which the masters and crews have for carefulness and general steadiness of character.

Jersey has not only several privileges, but she has also many immunities ; besides exemption from all taxes imposed by the Imperial Parliament, she is allowed to import all her own produce, duty free, into the ports of Great Britain, and this privilege extends even to her manufactures, if made of the island produce : to the colonies of British North America she has the privilege of sending not only her own produce, but manufactures also, although made from the produce of other countries. Jersey vessels have also the advantage of a British register.

It is no small advantage to the visitor that his bags and baggage are not subject to custom-house examination. He lands himself on his arrival in the Island, and takes all that pertains to him to his hotel or lodging, without difficulty or detention ; he departs, takes with him whatever he pleases of wine, brandy, or cigars, and no inquiry,—the punishment for what is wrong awaits him on the other side of the water. The masters of vessels partake also of these privileges, for they may, after having made their entry at the Custom House, unload as soon as they have a berth assigned them ; as the Manifest Act has not been registered in the Island, it is of no force here.

The late important change in the commercial system of Great Britain, occasioned by the alterations in the tariff, does not affect the Island, nor in any way infringe on its existing privileges. It is subject to such changes only as are incident to the mother country.

The system of **BANKING** in the Channel Islands is of a mixed and of a very anomalous character ; indeed, it can scarcely be said to be founded on any system at all. Although, in Jersey, the States do not contribute to the paper currency, yet some of the parishes issue their notes for the payment of demands on them. Besides the regular banking companies, of which there are several, individuals not unfrequently issue notes for the payment of private debts, or as a means of raising capital, without having to pay interest. It need scarcely be observed, that this kind of paper has not much of the public confidence ; it has, however, a quick circulation for a time : persons holding notes of this description, prefer making their first payments in them, as being the least secure. The issue of the regular bankers were formerly in one pound notes, Jersey currency, and payable on demand ; but since the law, passed in 1835, establishing English money as the legal tender, the notes issued by the banks are of one pound British sterling.

The great circulation of paper currency in Jersey giving great facility for discounts, has led to speculations of a hazardous and unwarrantable extent ; these causing losses to the speculators themselves, and consequently very often to the bankers, have had an injurious effect on the monied interest of the Island : the bankers, perceiving the effects of their over-issues, connected with other circumstances, have contracted them, and thus left the circulation to be chiefly supplied by an inferior kind of paper, or by the metallic currency, which is by no means equal to the demand.

The metallic currency of the Island was in French money, mostly in livres, pieces of ten sous, or in pieces of six livres, until 1832, when the French government called in its old silver coin ; since which time English sovereigns and silver have mostly circulated in Jersey. The exchange varies from 8 to 9 per cent. in favour of England, so that an

English shilling passes for thirteen pence, and a sovereign for twenty-one shillings and eight pence Jersey currency.

It is uncertain whether there were formerly in Jersey any establishments that might be termed MANUFACTORIES; though several articles were made there, as they are still, in the houses of private persons.

The earliest account that we have of Jersey manufacture is that of a kind of body coat made of hemp or flax, which were then grown on the Island: these coats were sent to England in large quantities. The same account informs us that at that time the manufacture of knit stockings was so extensive, that 10,000 pair were weekly sent to France: * large as this quantity is, it is by no means improbable, considering that the women and even children were constantly employed in knitting; and it is still in the recollection of persons by no means old, that it was unusual to see a woman in the country, whether in the house or walking, without plying the knitting needle; and even on horseback, while bringing the farm produce to market, she was so employed. The introduction of machinery in England, which has reduced the price of stockings, and other engagements employing the female population of the Island, has greatly diminished this, though it is still continued, but principally for the consumption of the inhabitants.

The increased demand for articles which were formerly brought from England, has led to the establishment of various manufactories; so that there are now Ropemakers, Brewers, Brickmakers, Tanners, Soapboilers, Candle-makers, Ironfounders, Distillers, &c.; but their business is not of an extent to require particular notice.

* This statement was first made by Falle, in his History of Jersey, and probably taken from some insular MS.; but this large quantity would consume more wool than was allowed by the English government for the Island. The authorities, may however, have connived at a larger quantity being introduced, to promote the trade.

CHAPTER V.

AGRICULTURE, SOIL AND FERTILITY, PRODUCE, MINERALOGY,
CLIMATE, AND AIR.¹

ON the subject of Agriculture, Jersey has kept nearly in an equal pace with that of commerce. Formerly very little regard was paid to the general management of the farms, whether in the succession of crops or mode of tillage : so little attention was paid to the clearing the ground, and it was generally so luxuriantly covered with weeds, that a person once jocosely observed, these may be considered as "a Jersey crop." It was at that time the custom for the Jersey farmers to assist each other in their labours, and seldom to expend any money on hire, which, it is obvious, is by no means favourable to good farming, as delay must frequently occur at a time when expedition may be very important : this system still prevails, though not to the extent it did formerly ; and the agriculture of the Island has derived great benefit from the improved modes of managing farms in this, as well as in other respects.

This improvement is generally to be ascribed to the exertions of an "Agricultural and Horticultural Society," which was founded in the Island in 1833, and which in 1837 published its 4th Annual Report. This report states, that a great improvement has taken place since the formation of the Society. "Stimulated by the example of their more energetic neighbours, the indolent have been roused from their lethargy, and induced to take an interest in the

beauteous and ornamental, as well as the necessary and lucrative productions of nature*:" this, at so early a period from the commencement of their operations, was a favourable omen, and presented a fair prospect that the results would be equal to their expectations. These expectations have been, in a great measure, realized in the improved condition of the smaller farms. We cannot better exhibit the truth of this remark, than by quoting from the Agricultural Report of the Society, published in 1840. The few extracts that will be given present interesting facts, and the conclusions are drawn by gentlemen well qualified to form an opinion:—"The Visiting Committee report, that in their annual tour they were gratified to observe, that more attention is now paid to the weeding of crops than formerly." . . . They also remarked, "that great exertions are made in various parts of the Island to remove useless and unsightly hedges, which in many instances are nurseries of weeds and a harbour for vermin." They also report, that some successful attempts have been made to "give a gentle inclination to water meadows, where bodies of earth and rock had been levelled, or risen from twelve to fifteen feet, by means of which bogs overgrown with rushes will be converted into most valuable permanent pasture."

In the other extracts that will be given, the reader will find some information on the actual amount of produce on some of the best farms, and these will at the same time show the course adopted, by which results so important have been accomplished.

"In the Western district, the prize for white carrots was awarded to Colonel le Couteur. This crop was raised experimentally, half the field white carrots, the other in parsnips, after an old lucerne and grass lay. Twenty tons

* Report.

of stable manure had been turned in with the trench-plough, eighteen inches deep. The crops were hoed three times. The white-carrots produced the enormous weight of 854 lbs. imperial to the perch, or above 38 tons to the acre, while the parsnips cultivated in the same way, only produced 374 lbs. to the perch, or sixteen tons and a half; they were sown on the 24th of April, one month too late at least."

This will show the great advantage of cultivating the white carrot. The parsnips produced in this case were a low average; the general produce of well-cultivated land is about 20 tons to the acre. The reader will find, in a subsequent part of this chapter, a more general statement of the produce of this Island.

It may not be generally known to the English reader, that Jersey sends a considerable quantity of seed-wheat to the United Kingdom; and such has been the high quality of this article for future growth, that Col. le Couteur obtained the first prize offered for wheat by the Agricultural Society in England, at the meeting held in Cambridge in 1840. The Report further states, that "this circumstance cannot fail to increase the demand which has been already obtained for seed-wheat since the publication of his pamphlet. As far as the Board have ascertained, the wheat exported to England and Scotland for seed has answered the best expectation."

The Society has directed considerable attention and exertion to sustain the high character of the breed of Jersey cows, better known in England as Alderney, by offering high premiums, as prizes, for the best bulls and cows exhibited at their annual cattle shows.*

* It will be interesting to English readers, and especially to those who are making purchases of this very superior breed of cows, to know the several points that constitute excellence, as determined by the Society: these are thirty, to reach perfection. No prize is awarded for any animal, unless it possess twenty of these points.

In the Horticultural department, likewise, the Island is making rapid advances : some of the orchards and gardens of the peasantry begin to assume the appearance of neatness and good order, which formerly was nowhere thought of ; and there cannot be a doubt that in this respect the Society will extend its beneficial influence over the whole Island, and it may, like the Isle of Wight, become another " garden of England." " The last monthly show, especially, was remarkable for its classification and its botanical accuracy : indeed, many of the flowers, and garden productions generally, would have been objects of admiration, even in the exhibitions of the parent Society of London."*

Exertions are also making by the Society to restore another island produce, which formerly was made to a

SCALE OF POINTS FOR COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Points.
Art. I.—Breed, on male and female sides, reputed for producing rich and yellow butter	4
II.—Head small, fine, and tapering; eye full and lively; muzzle fine and encircled with white; horns polished and a little crumpled, tipped with black; ears small, of an orange colour within	8
III.—Back, straight from the withers to the setting of the tail; chest, deep, and nearly of a line with the belly.	4
IV.—Hide, thin, moveable, but not too loose, well covered with fine and soft hair, of good colour	2
V.—Barrel-hooped, and deep, well ribbed home, having but little space between the ribs and hip; tail, fine, hanging two inches below the hock	3
VI.—Fore legs, straight and fine, thighs full and long, close together when viewed from behind; hind legs short, and bones rather fine; hoof, small; hind legs not to cross in walking	2
VII.—Udder full, well up behind; teats, large and squarely placed, being wide apart; milk veins, large and swelling	4
VII.—Growth	1
IX.—General appearance and condition	2
Perfection for Cows	30

* Report.

considerable extent, and which is still highly esteemed in London—Jersey honey. Prizes have been offered to the cottagers as an encouragement to keep bees. It may, however, require time to induce the Islanders to return to a practice which they may suppose to have been discontinued, because unprofitable: this, however, if entertained, is an erroneous opinion, for it is justly observed, that there is “no branch of rural economy, which involves so little expense, and secures so large a profit.”*

The soil of Jersey is, necessarily, very variable, from the inequality of its surface. The whole Island is a huge stony mass, the elevated parts of which are often but slightly covered with a gritty substance, composed of the detritus of rock and of sea sand, amalgamated with decayed vegetables. On the contrary, the valleys have a great depth of alluvial matter, washed down by violent rains from the steep declivities of those slopes, called *Cotils*, by which the rivulets are straitened in their course. These valleys, where not swampy, are extremely fertile, and all that are not drained might be so, and rendered highly productive.* The general depth of soil is from one to four feet, but in the valleys from ten to twelve feet of vegetable earth is sometimes found.

An exception must, however, be made to a large tract of land, called *Les Quenvais*, or *Quenvés*, in the S. W. corner of the Island. This district is now a mere assemblage of sandy hillocks, which, in several places, rise one hundred feet above the level of the shore, and scarcely afford nourishment to some scattered plants, and a few meagre blades of spiry grass. It is completely open to the western gales, to which must be attributed the clouds of sand from St.

* Report.

† The commons of St. Peter's, St. Lawrence's, and Grouville, are low swampy ground.

Ouen's bay, which have been drifted over that devoted part of the country, and the sterility is thus produced.

A remarkable inundation took place towards the close of the 15th century, and so desolating were its effects, that a rich vale in this quarter of the Island became a desert; this was wholly, or in part, an extensive wood; which, while it remained, sheltered the more inland part. That defence thrown down, the wind had full power over the adjacent country: and the sand, which, since the inundation, continued to cover Les Quenvais, may be a portion of the very soil in which the forest grew; for St. Ouen's bay is, in a manner, paved with flat rocks to a considerable way in the sea, beyond low-water mark. These had, doubtless, a superstratum of excellent soil: the number of trees that are at times discovered, with their roots still penetrating the fissures of the rocks, and thus clinging to them, attest the truth.*

The soil of Jersey is in general good, although it is not of the rich loamy character found in some counties in England: it will, however, bear the character of a sandy loam; and, aided by the mildness of the climate, it is very productive. Another reason of its fertility is the unctuous nature of the manure used in the Island. This is the *Vraic*†, already noticed. It will be necessary to be somewhat particular on this marine production, and we cannot give a better account of it, both of its nature and

* This fact is further attested by the following remark of Col. Le Couteur, communicated to the author:—

“There I saw the remains of a noble oak, three feet in diameter, which had been denuded of sand by the storm of March last. It was firmly rooted in bog earth, and worn into thin laminæ, by the action of the sea and sand, in the direction of the rise and fall of the tide.”

† It was the opinion of Sir John Sinclair, that sea-weed used as a manure, ploughed in, preserved wheat from mildew, and was otherwise most propitious to its growth. It is generally admitted, that salt water sprinkled on grass, makes it both sweet and more abundant. *Vraic*, used as a top-dressing, must have the same effect, as it is impregnated with salt.

properties, than is to be found in the MS. already quoted : the mode of collecting it will be detailed elsewhere. After describing the rocks, the writer observes, " These rocks, though they are bare of earthy matter, and cleane washed by the continual beating of the sea, produce a weed, called by the inhabitants *Vraic*, and in ancient records *Veriscum*. This weed groweth there as thick as grasse in a meadowe, and much more, especially in moiste years, which is an argument that the rain, as well as the sea, contributes to its growthe. There are two kinds of it, y^e round and y^e flat leaf'd : the first is more dry, and approaching the nature of wood, and therefore it is used for firing, and maketh as hot a fire as that which is made of sea coales, but not so lasting : after it is burnt, the ashes of it serve for an excellent manure for the ground, to produce either corne or grasse ; for if you sowe it on your grasse about Christmas, or rather before, you shall easily discover in the spring the place where it fell, from the other where there was none. The same ashes are used for making soape... The other kind of flat leaf'd *Vraic* is more slimye and fatter than the former, and rot-teth easily, imbibes into the ground, and keeps it fresh and moist during the heat of summer, and soe is more propitious to corne and other seedes, yea, to plantes also, as is demonstrable by experience, the surest argument... This sort is of more account with the Islanders, because it serves of manure for half the Island at least ! therefore, in the gathering thereof, no anticipation is tolerated ; nor is it ever, by ancient tradition, permitted to be cut in the moneth of January, without urgent necessity, nor protracted beyond the first of February, and the permission lasteth till St. George's Day, during which time there is a perfect truce from ordinary lawe-suites, but not for those quarrels, which the communion of that weed produceth."*

* MS. 1682.

It should not be left unnoticed, that this is a most beneficent provision, as the Island produces neither chalk, limestone, nor marl; and as the supply of stable manure* is small, the land could receive but little improvement without it.

Vraic is collected in large quantities, and at no other expense than that of labour; and as the distance of conveying it, even to the centre of the Island, is short, it is used, as may be supposed, with no sparing hand: the land has thus a good dressing, and more frequently than in England—this is the main cause of the productiveness of the land in Jersey. It will not be necessary to enter into the question, whether large or small farms are the more productive,—whether the rich man's capital, or "the farmer's foot," which some say "is the best manure," tends to the greater profit; but it is certain that the same quantity of land is cultivated at less expense in Jersey than in England: a Jerseyman works more hours in a day than an English farmer, whose farm is too small to allow much labour to be on hire, and perhaps it may be said is more laborious while at work. Although this may not cause the land to be more productive, it causes the profit to be greater, which, added to the frugality that is observable on a Jersey farm, yields a larger surplus than an English farm of the same extent could supply. The value and rent of land, which are always in a measure regulated by its produce, are certainly high in Jersey: this proves the fact, that a Jersey farm yields a large profit, and accounts for what would otherwise be considered an exorbitant price: the value of an acre of land is from £120 to £160, according to its proximity to, or distance from the town, and the rents from £5 10s. to £6 15s. per acre: nothing but great produce and much labour at a small

* This was formerly so little esteemed, that the farmer paid for removing it; this, however, is no longer the case.

expense, could bear such an enormous rental. There is not, however, much land on rent; a Jerseyman is generally the cultivator of his own property, descended to him from his ancestors, and perhaps through many generations.

In the neighbourhood of the town of St. Helier, there is found an earth capable of being made into bricks, though not of a superior quality: it is, however, used for the purpose, as has been already observed in the preceding chapter.

From what has been observed of the population of the Island, compared with its extent, it cannot be supposed to produce sufficient for its consumption. It has already been noticed, that it is mostly supplied with grain from the Baltic; France principally supplies it with live stock. Under the head of Trade, has been described the number of cattle brought into the Island to supply its increasing population: besides these, there are about 30,000 live poultry introduced annually.

It should here be observed, that although Jersey is principally supplied with both grain and cattle by the foreigner, it is not to the injury of the Jersey producer, and much to the advantage of the consumer, for both are imported at a lower rate than they could be produced; and the Jersey farmer is left to employ his time and his capital in a way more profitable to himself: this leads to the subject of the actual produce of the Island. Cider, Cows, Potatoes, and Butter are the chief products and articles of trade, as they are all exported, and in large quantities.

There is no means of ascertaining the actual quantity of Cider made on the Island, but it must be very great, as it is the principal beverage of the middle and lower classes: the farmers are not very particular in assorting their fruit, but allow a mixture of different kinds, and are not

sufficiently careful in rejecting such as is damaged : the result is, of course, an inferior article, but this is mostly consumed on the Island ; the better kind is sent to England : upwards of 2000 hogsheads are annually exported. It is supposed that one-fourth of the cultivated land in Jersey is employed as orchards.

The English reader need scarcely be told in what great estimation the Jersey Cows and Heifers are held. They are better known in England as Alderney cows, but they are mostly sent from Jersey—the former island exports comparatively few ;—they are, however, of a similar character. The Guernsey cow, though good of its kind, is altogether a different animal. The Jersey cow is small and slender in its make, with short crumpled horns, having a resemblance to the finest formed Ayrshire cows ; the Guernsey is larger, more like the mixed Devonshire and Holderness : the former gives by far the richer milk, the latter the larger quantity.

A large portion of the Island is devoted to the growth of Potatoes, and the soil seems well adapted to it. It is calculated that a vergée will produce 360 cabots, which is equal to about 16 English tons ; it must be admitted that this is a very high estimate, and it may well be questioned if any one county in England, taking an average of the whole county, produces so large a quantity ; but the fact, that between 8000 and 10,000 tons are annually sent to England, proves that the produce must be very great.

From what has been observed of the character of the Jersey cow, it will be supposed that a large quantity of Butter is made, and as the economical habits of a Jersey farmer do not allow him to indulge much in this luxury, it is mostly sent to the town market for sale, or exported to England. It is in general very good : in 1830 there were upwards of 25,000lb. sent to England : this quantity has

since decreased, owing to the larger consumption in the Island.

Jersey certainly produces Wheat, Barley, and Oats, but not in large quantities ; it is found more profitable to import these, and devote the land to other purposes. Jersey wheat is lighter than that of England in the proportion of 52 to 62 : the average quantity per acre is 30 bushels ; but on the larger and better cultivated farms, between 50 and 60 bushels per acre is not an unusual produce.

The small surface of the Island does not allow of any large plantation of Timber trees, yet it is by no means deficient in wood : the trees mostly grow in hedge-rows, although there are a few small enclosures. Small fields requiring exposure to the sun, farmers are obliged to lop the wide-spreading branches so close as almost to reduce the trees to pollards, and so numerous are these, that, taking a view from any elevated part, the Island appears like one continued forest. On the slopes, or *cotils*, trees are also to be seen, and they yield likewise broom, gorse, and fern : where they are neither too steep, nor too rocky, there is tolerable pasture.

Lucerne is grown in considerable quantity, and for this the island soil seems well adapted : it is generally cut green and given to the cattle. Although the system of tethering is not peculiar to the Island, yet it is universally adopted in it, and with great advantage as a saving of pasturage. Where the land has been well cultivated, it is sometimes cut four times, and afterwards fed off. Mangold Wurzel has of late been much cultivated. An unsuccessful attempt has been made to rear hops ; from the nature of the soil it would probably succeed, but the heavy gales of wind, to which the Island is subject, are by no means favourable to a hop plantation.

Private gardens yield every natural luxury that the climate can produce ; and from this source the market is

principally supplied. The peach apricot is remarkable for its size and beauty. Melons are in profusion, and strawberries have been noticed for superiority of flavour. Of winter fruits, the pearmain is here a very good eating apple, and reckoned to keep longer than almost any other. But the pride of this Island is the *Chaumantelle*, which is a pear sometimes nearly a pound in weight. This delicious fruit frequently sells on the spot for five guineas per hundred, and is sent to English friends as a choice present. The *Colmar*, though in less general estimation, is by many considered as even a superior kind. Both these species keep for several months; but they require great care and almost daily attention. These are mentioned as being peculiarly excellent, but most of the best English, French, Dutch and American apples and pears are now to be seen in the Jersey gardens.

Formerly, when a very considerable quantity both of mead and perry was made in the Island, Bees were a particular object of attention; from the honey were made two kinds of mead, called *Vittoe* and *Boschel*, and so strong was the former, that when any one in his libations had exceeded the bounds of moderation, the taunt was "*vous êtes envitoe*:" but a comparatively small quantity of either of these is now made. Jersey honey is still in high estimation in the English market; and if the Islanders adopt the suggestion of the Agricultural Society, it may yet be an important article of Jersey produce, and profitable trade.

The rocks of which the Island is composed appear chiefly to belong to the trap and porphyry formations of Werner. Granite, strictly speaking, is not found here, but a rock nearly related to it, viz. sienite, is very prevalent in the Island, and found in various states of freshness. In all places where it is seen, it shows a tendency to subdivision. The variety which approaches nearest to real granite,

strictly speaking, is that quarried at Mount Mado; which also naturally separates into distinct masses; but these blocks are of much larger dimensions than those of the other varieties. They are indiscriminately angular, and of a more or less prismatic form; their surface is of a deeper colour, which is generally seen to penetrate two or three inches deep into the interior. This Mont-Mado rock, of which ample use has been made for architectural purposes, is as hard as any granite: it is of a close and rather small grain; the proportion of its feldspar, which is of a pale red colour, far exceeds that of quartz and hornblende, the latter of which is not seen in quantity in any of the varieties that occur here. Another variety of this stone, equally hard and compact, is quarried at the western side of St. Brelade's bay, beyond the church: it separates more than the other into pieces of various shape and size, some of them very small, and wedge-shaped. Sometimes the blocks appear perfectly white on the rifts, in consequence of the disintegration of the feldspar. The sienite of Plemont is of a close grain, but separable into small masses, and therefore not so useful as that of Mont Mado.

A beautiful variety of granite-like sienite is that seen in various parts of the coast, especially in St. Aubin's bay, towards Noirmont point, in which the feldspar, which constitutes by far the greater part of the mass, is of a deep flesh and brick-red colour, with large grains of white quartz, which is sometimes found crystallized in it, and not unfrequently mixed with much massive thallite or epidote, which here and there forms small veins. It juts out in huge masses, and is in some places overlaid by thick beds of loam, with imbedded blocks and rolled pieces of the same rock, of which also innumerable rounded fragments are scattered about on the shore. In the bay of St. Brelade, it occurs with veins of common quartz, which is sometimes indistinctly crystallized. In this bay stands a

small insulated rock of the same large-grained sienite, in which may be seen enclosed a moveable rounded piece of the same mass, which partly projects from the hollow in in which it is lodged. The thallite occurs also in considerable masses in the sienitic rocks that stand out at that part of St. Aubin's bay where the barracks are, where likewise considerable veins of brick-red feldspar are seen in it.

The varieties of sienite appear in some parts to pass into porphyry, in others into a kind of green-stone, in a state of partial or entire decomposition; to this belongs the rock on which Fort Regent stands. The well sunk at its top passes through from thirty to fifty feet of the rotten rock: the rest, to the depth of two hundred and thirty-three feet, is in the fresh sienitic rock. Both these varieties of rocks have a seamed structure: the direction of the seams in general is from south-west to north-east. The rifts of the fresh rock are often coated with common pyrites.

At Fremont and its neighbourhood we find abundance of compact feldspar with disseminated quartz, and also here and there with crystalline particles of flesh-red common feldspar: there are several varieties of it, both with regard to the colour of the mass, (which is generally of a yellowish grey,) and the particles of quartz and common feldspar imbedded in it. The surface of Fremont is entirely covered with masses and fragments of this rock, in various states of disintegration: they are all quite white, at least on the surface, and some are almost entirely changed into kaolin. At the foot of Fremont, in Bonne-nuit bay, there are several large rolled pieces of the same decomposed rock. In going down the road, at the foot of Fremont, leading to Bonne-nuit bay, we see on the left side a bed of this porphyritic rock laid open: it is fissured in all directions, and reddish brown on the rifts: a deposi-

tion of loam, with large fragments and rolled pieces of the same rock, rests on the porphyry bed.

The compact feldspar, in a completely disintegrated state, may be seen in going to Bouley bay, on the hills nearly to the southward of the signal post: on one side a great mass of it is laid bare, which, at first sight, has much the appearance of white limestone. A curious variety of compact feldspar also occurs in masses in Bouley bay and its neighbourhood: it is variously tinged by a green substance, which in some parts appears like a green earth, in others like thallite, and even like serpentine. Some varieties are porphyritic and of a very pale green colour, passing into greyish white with green spots. Bouley bay presents a very curious aspect from those quantities of large green stones, and the huge boulders of variegated porphyritic masses, partly disengaged, partly still imbedded in the loam: but the most remarkable rock in this bay, quite up to La Coupe, and of which immense blocks lie scattered about, and stand out in their natural situation, is a pudding-stone, the mass of which is the green thallite-like substance, sometimes pure and dark green, sometimes pale, including pebbles, mostly of the porphyritic rock above mentioned, from very small to several feet in diameter: this is a very fine rock, and bears some resemblance to the beautiful Egyptian breccia. It appears to be in connexion with another of a similar nature, which forms the high ground in going from St. Martin's to Rosel harbour. This is a conglomerate, differing from that of Bouley bay in the cementing mass, and presenting but little of the green substance with which the other abounds; its cement is in general of a ferrugino-argillaceous nature. This conglomerate appears to discontinue at St. Catherine's bay, where a porphyritic rock begins, which in part is not unlike that of Fremont, but is also seen in a state of clay porphyry. It contains nests

of green earth, and a green substance like thallite, but softer.

Besides green-stone, both fresh and in various degrees of disintegration, which occurs in some parts as insulated masses in connexion with the sienite, two other rocks belonging to the trap formation deserve to be mentioned here, viz., the green porphyry and the amygdaloid, which are seen in considerable beds at Roque Mollet, on the road leading to St. Saviour's, where both rocks are quarried, and employed for paving and in the construction of walls. The green porphyry has a blackish-green base, in which are imbedded slender prismatic crystals of feldspar, mostly decomposed, and also, here and there, small withered globules of what appears to be carbonate of lime. The amygdaloid consists of the same mass with that forming the base of the green porphyry; only that its colour has generally more of a bluish-brown tint: it contains small nodules of calcareous spar, and the cells are generally lined with green earth. The rifts of both the amygdaloid and porphyritic masses are frequently marked with holes as if worm-eaten. Sometimes the mass appears without either feldspar or calcareous spar, and may then be considered as approaching to the nature of wacke; but sometimes granular carbonate of lime is found in it, in considerable nests: it is, therefore, incorrectly stated, that the latter substance is among those of which no traces are to be found in Jersey.

From the trifling difference between the latitude of Jersey and that of the southern coast of England, and from its proximity to the continent, by which it is embraced on three sides, an Englishman would not be led to expect any great variation between the climate of Jersey and that of his own country. There is, however, a sensible difference, particularly with respect to the season of winter, for the climate of islands is always more temperate

than that of continents in the same parallel. Frost is rarely of any continuance : snow seldom lies more than two or three days on the ground ; and shrubs that require to be sheltered, even in Devonshire and Cornwall, are here exposed without any covering, and seldom receive much injury. We see also carnations, pinks, and other spring flowers blowing during winter in the open air, if in a favourable aspect ; and, with a little shelter, even the Chinese rose. Rains are indeed more frequent in Jersey than in England : fogs, that rise from the sea and spread themselves over the land, are not uncommon ; and the Island is subject to boisterous gales of wind, especially from the western quarter, from whence it blows more frequently than from any other point of the compass. The weather is, occasionally, very warm during summer ; but that oppressive sultriness, sometimes experienced in England and on the continent, in hot summers, is seldom felt.

This nearer approach to equability of temperature, is the natural consequence of Jersey being completely open, on one side, to the Atlantic ocean, and to its comparative minuteness, whereby every part receives a portion of the vapours exhaled from that immense body of water.

In the latter part of the spring a keen easterly wind prevails, usually, for some time : this is remarkably penetrating to delicate constitutions. Aguish complaints are, indeed, not uncommon in the few swampy parts ; and it must be admitted that pulmonic attacks are not unfrequent : these last chiefly attack young persons, and they may in some measure be attributed to causes which have not any reference whatever to climate, but rather to the want of attention to the clothing during the variable season of spring. Bilious affections are likewise prevalent, particularly in the summer season. Perhaps, however, no part of Europe can furnish more instances of vigorous longevity.

It will be interesting to the reader who may seek particular information on this subject, to give some extracts from a work, written by Dr. Hooper, on the Topography, Climate, and prevalent Diseases of the island of Jersey. The work is the result of many years' minute observation on the subject, and careful registration of the facts as they occurred.

On the climate, Dr. Hooper observes—

“ The land of Jersey, from its situation and small extent, enjoys a remarkably mild climate ; so mild, indeed, that with regard to temperature simply, it will be found superior to most neighbouring places, and equal to many in more southern latitudes.

“ From observations continued during five successive years, it has appeared that the mean temperature of St. Helier averages at $53^{\circ} 06$. In the same lapse of time the entire range of the mercury in the thermometer was 62° , the two extremes being 88° and 26° . Atmospheric heat, averaged on the whole month, arrives at its maximum in August, and is at the lowest level in January. The three summer months differ very little from one another in their mean temperature, the greatest variation, which occurs between the two first, being little more than two degrees. Considered in a similar point of view, winter comes next ; then autumn, and last of all comes spring. Arranged according to their mean temperature, the months stand thus : 1, August,—2, July,—3, June,—4, September,—5, May,—6, October,—7, April,—8, November,—9, March,—10, December,—11, February,—12, January.”

The climate of Jersey, according to Dr. Hooper's opinion, approximates more nearly to that of Penzance than to any other of the mild situations in the south of England.

“ The progression of temperature through the months from one extreme to the other, appears more gradual in Jersey than at the Land's End, the variations being decidedly less in the spring than in the autumn ; the difference, however, is of trifling importance, compared with those which exist between the two

localities with regard to equality of temperature. In this point of view, Jersey lays claim to a superiority, which undoubtedly more than counterbalances its disadvantages in other respects. Its climate in winter is singularly favourable, and fully proves the correctness of Dr. Young's conclusion, that for equability of temperature, a very small island must have great advantages over every other situation on shore."

In the following remarks, which describe generally the character of the climate during different seasons of the year, will also be found some useful hints, worthy the attention of the visitor, and especially the invalid :—

"The Island enjoys an early spring and a lengthened autumn; vegetation being usually active and forward in March, and the landscape far from naked as late as the end of December. The dreary aspect of winter is comparatively short-lived, but the season of spring is marked by the same unsteadiness of temperature, and harsh variable weather, as in most spots under a similar latitude; and this disadvantage is particularly felt in May, which often fails to bring with it the expected enjoyments. Generally speaking, our March is mild, compared with what it is in neighbouring places: October possesses a still greater superiority in the same respect; consequently the genial qualities of the climate may be made available to the invalid, to whose case they are applicable, during a period of six months. In diseases which require the avoidance of great ranges and variations of temperature, the objectionable qualities of the months of April and May, though in a certain degree tempered by the causes which mitigate the severity of our winter, are nevertheless such as to call for great care in the use of exercise in the open air. To those who quit warm clothing, or any other way relax in their precautions against the effect of cold by anticipation, these months too often prove very dangerous. Bating this circumstance, a securer spot could scarce be found by a numerous class of English invalids within a much greater distance from their home. The summer is generally and always comparatively dry and cool, restricting, of course, the meaning of the words to the quantity of rain and the mitigating influence

of the surrounding ocean upon the power of the sun's rays. The winter, however, is the season, which of all others contributes the most to the peculiarities of the climate; with rare exceptions, it passes off in soft rainy, or windy weather, with intervals of astonishingly mild days, and with scarcely any frost or snow.

“ By reason of the mildness, trifling range, and variations of temperature, chronic disorders proceed slowly towards their termination; a circumstance of no mean import, since, by allowing more time for the operations of nature and of art, it adds to the chances of recovery, in cases not absolutely hopeless.*

Dr. Hooper concludes his general observations with this important fact:—

“ Persons who, from a long residence in tropical climates, have been rendered incapable of resisting the cold of their native land, generally experience decided benefit from one or two winters spent in this island. Several cases have come under my observation of individuals of either sex, from England or Scotland, who, with natural and unreflecting predilection, had on their return from India, hastened to their native country, but from which, soon after, they were obliged to fly, as from almost certain death; and who having resorted to this milder climate, as a preparatory step, had afterwards returned home, with perfect impunity to health.”

* It will not be expected in a work of this kind to treat of the Pathology of the Island; but to the medical student, who may desire information on the subject, a perusal of Dr. Hooper's work is strongly recommended: [it is intitled “ Observations on the Topography, Climate, and prevalent Diseases of the Island of Jersey, by George S. Hooper, M. D.

CHAPTER VI.

ASSEMBLY OF THE STATES, MILITARY GOVERNMENT, ROYAL COURT, ITS OFFICERS AND JURISDICTION.

Assembly of the States.

THE Legislative Assembly of the Island, called the States, consists of thirty-six members. These comprise three separate Estates, who sit together, forming but one assembly, and is composed of, 1. The twelve Jurats, who are elected by the whole of the rate-payers of the Island as judges, and are *ex officio* legislators for life. 2. The twelve Rectors of the twelve parishes into which the Island is divided, and who likewise are members for life. And, 3. The twelve Constables, who are chosen by the parishes triennially. The first may be said to represent the Aristocracy of the Island, the second the Church, and the third the Commonalty. The queen's Attorney-general, the Viscount or sheriff, and the queen's Solicitor-general, though they represent no Estate, are also admitted *ex officio*. The attorney-general and solicitor-general have a right to address the assembly, but are not entitled to vote. The Grefier, or secretary of the Royal Court, is likewise, by virtue of his office, clerk of the States.

The Assembly of the States is convened by the Bailiff, who constantly presides, or in his absence, by his lieutenant. The governor may protract the assembling of the States, but not beyond fifteen days, except on occasions

when the Island is in danger, or for the special service of the crown.

The governor has no vote in the assembly: as a representative of the sovereign, he has a *veto* on all its proceedings, but he is instructed not to use this power, except in cases which concern the "special interest of the crown." The bailiff has also a similar right of dissent, but his *veto* extends only to the postponement of the Act of the States passing into a law, until it has received the consent of the crown, and is to be used only in such cases as when her "Majesty's interest or prerogative, or the constitution or laws of the country," are concerned.

No Assembly of the States can be held, without at least seven of each corps being present, except on very urgent occasions, such as when the safety or defence of the Island makes prompt measures necessary. Foreigners preferred to benefices, are, unless naturalized, excluded.

The jurats and constables are elected by those inhabitants who are British subjects, and twenty years of age, and whose names are on the rate list. The governor prefers to the rectories, which gives him the same power, except to number, as the monarch has in England in the creation of peers.

The principal business of the States is to raise money for the public service*, and to pass laws for the government of the Island; these have force only for three years, unless ratified by the sovereign in council, when they become permanent. This Assembly also exercises the power of naturalizing foreigners, with the same limitation as to time, unless confirmed by the council.†

* By an order of council, (received June, 1816,) it is required, that, in all levies of money ordered to be made by the States, the greffier must certify, that all the proper forms have been observed; the act must then be transmitted, by the lieutenant-governor, to England, and must be sanctioned by the king in council, before it can take effect.

† The public seal is kept in a purse, sealed by two jurats, in the

A code of laws was, in 1771, compiled by the States, and sanctioned by the king in council ; this may be considered as the fundamental statute law of the Island.

Military Government.

The principal officer in Jersey, who is the representative of the sovereign, and who claims precedence of all others, is the Governor. The governors were formerly styled "Custodes:" at that time they held both the military and civil jurisdiction; the title then was "Custos Regum," "Custos terræ:" at a still more remote period they were styled "Captains," and afterwards "Lords of the Island." The office of governor was then considered so honourable, as to be sometimes held by princes of the royal blood.

The power of the governors has varied, as their respective commissions have, at different times, been either enlarged or restrained. Anciently the governor had a mixed power. He had the administration of both the civil and military authority. He was judge as well as governor, and had the disposal of all appointments, whether in court, church, or garrison. To relieve himself from the various duties imposed on him, he at length reserved the exercise of his military authority alone, and transferred the judicial to another, who thereby obtained the title of bailiff, but who was still a dependent of the governor, and merely an instrument of his will: the other ministers of justice were equally his creatures. It may well be supposed, that an authority so unlimited and without control, was not always administered with justice. King John began, and Henry VII. completed, the esta-

custody of the bailiff, which seals are not to be broken, except when a like number be present. The seal now in use was presented to the Island by Edward I.

blishment of a jurisdiction wholly distinct; the latter taking from him the nomination of the bailiff and other officers of the court, and forbidding his interposition in any civil affairs.*

The governor has at present a mere sinecure appointment: he seldom resides on the Island, the duties of the office being entirely executed by the lieutenant-governor; who, as well as the governor, is appointed by the sovereign. He receives the whole of the crown revenue of the Island, with the exception of some trifling rents, which are paid to the lieutenant-governor, after deducting some fees and salaries.

Although the governor has no proper jurisdiction, yet, in consequence of his dignity, his presence is frequently required in court, and is in some respects necessary. He has the court so far under his protection, that he is obliged, when so required, to assist the bailiff and jurats with his authority, in the execution of their decrees. He has power, with the concurrence of two jurats, to arrest and imprison any inhabitant, upon strong suspicion of treason. Foreigners may neither settle, nor even enter the Island, without his permission. He may protract the assembling of the States, and render invalid, by his *veto*, any measure they may have carried; but subject to the restriction in both cases already noticed. He may attend and deliberate with the States, but cannot vote: he has only a negative voice.

The Lieutenant-governor has always of late years been a military officer. He has the charge of the fortresses; the regular troops, as well as the island militia, are under his command, and he grants commissions to the officers of the latter. The militia are furnished with arms and clothing by the British government; but neither officers nor men receive pay, except the adjutants and drill serjeants. So

* See General History.

well disciplined is this body, that in time of war they are sometimes brigaded with regular troops, and mount guard with them in the defences round the Island.

On the death or absence of the lieutenant-governor, the court has the power of swearing in the next superior military officer into the office of deputy-governor, till the new appointment has been made by the sovereign.

Royal Court, its Officers and Jurisdiction.

The Jersey Court of judicature consists of the Bailiff, and the same twelve Jurats who sit in the Assembly of the States. The former is appointed by the crown, and represents the sovereign in court: there, as a standing memorial of his independence, and of his right of precedency in the court, his seat is raised above that of the governor. The jurats, who are his assessors, must be protestants of the Church of England.

The Bailiff is the chief magistrate of the court. He presides in all the debates, collects the votes, and pronounces the sentence or decision: he has not any vote, except upon an equal division among the jurats; in this case he has a casting vote. He is the keeper of the public seal, which, however, he cannot use, without the joint concurrence of two jurats. He is bound to reside in the Island, unless he has a dispensation from the crown,—in this case a lieutenant-bailiff is appointed: this appointment is also by the sovereign.

The Jurats are not only members of the States and judges in the Royal Court, but act as magistrates. The office has not any salary attached to it, but a few privileges are annexed: there must be seven present to constitute a full court; any cause decided by a lesser number may be again brought before a *Corps de Cour*, or full number, to which an appeal lies; but without the presence of the

bailiff, or his deputy, there cannot be any proceedings. Neither of these nor a jurat can sit in judgment on any cause in which he, or any relation within the degree of uncle, may be interested. A jurat is also liable to be recused (challenged) for enmity to one of the parties, or on other special grounds.

There is also attached to the court, *Le Procureur du Roi*, or attorney-general; *L'Avocat du Roi*, or solicitor-general; *Le Viconte*, or high-sheriff; *Le Greffier*, or clerk, who has the custody of the rolls and records; six pleaders or solicitors at the bar, styled *Avocats du Barreau*; two under-sheriffs, called *Denonciateurs*, who publish the injunctions of the court; and *Le Huissier*, or usher, whose office is that of preserving order. To constitute a court, however, there need only be present the bailiff and two jurats, the *Procureur du Roi*, or the *Avocat du Roi*, and the *Greffier*; and the *Viconte*, or one of the *Denonciateurs*, usually attends. To these may be added, though not a member of the court, *L'Enregistreur*, or keeper of the register for hereditary contracts. Of the preceding employments, the first three are held by patent; the bailiff has the appointment of all the others.

The Court, thus composed, is a ROYAL COURT, having cognizance of all pleas, suits, and actions, whether real, personal, mixed, or criminal, arising within the Island, with the exception of treason and coining, or such other as may affect the royal prerogative: these are reserved for the sovereign in council, to whom alone this tribunal is immediately amenable.

An appeal lies from the *corps de cour*, or full court, under certain regulations, and by consent of the court, to the sovereign in council; but even these appeals are to be determined according to the laws and customs of the Island. Should the court refuse to grant an appeal, a doléance, or complaint to the sovereign, may be preferred.

If the doleance be not sustained, the petitioner is liable to be fined by the council.

In criminal cases there lies no appeal; nor can the governor even suspend the execution of the sentence, although the court has this power, by delaying the execution of its own judgment.

Though there is but one tribunal, and in that the judges are always the same persons, yet, on account of the great variety of causes, requiring different methods of proceeding, the court assumes four distinct characters; and is called either *La Cour d'Heritage*; *La Cour de Catel*; *La Cour du Billet*; or, *La Cour Extraordinaire*, or *du Samedi*.

La Cour d'Heritage, as its name implies, takes cognizance only of hereditary matters, as partitions of estates, differences about bounds, invasion of rights, &c. *La Cour de Catel* is principally for chattels, rents, and decrets*, and takes cognizance of matters in dispute for thirty-nine previous years. *La Cour de Billet* is a court chiefly for arrears of rents, and for small debts. *La Cour du Samedi* is a subsidiary court, in which all personal matters are adjudged, election causes, and those which require to be immediately decided; it is also in this court that debts and penalties due to the crown are sued for, and before which the ordinary police business of the Island is transacted.

Besides the officers attached to the court already noticed, there are others that regulate the police. In every parish, the principal magistrate is *Le Connétable*. This officer is chosen by the same inhabitants who elect the jurats. His office is triennial, and he may be re-elected. The office of constable is of a more honourable character in Jersey than in England. His post is more like that of the mayor

* This term means what in England is called "bankruptcies:" but a consequence of a recent change in the law respecting *decrets*, the *cour de Catel* has very little business to perform.

in a corporate town, and is generally considered as a step to the magistracy. He is one of the members of the States, and he presides in all parochial assemblies, for secular affairs, even though a jurat be present; but in all meetings relative to the affairs of the church, the minister presides.

The civil establishments, in the different parishes, are thus regulated :

The principal officer is *Le Connétable*.

Under the connétable are two *Centeniers* : these were formerly prefects over one hundred families. In the absence or indisposition of the connétable, the senior centenier performs his duty, and represents him in the Assembly of the States.

There are likewise several *Vinteniens*, each of whom has the charge of a particular vintaine, into which the parishes are divided; also *Officiers du Connétable*, whose duty is subordinate to that of the other officers, and is nearly similar to that of an English constable. There are besides two *Procureurs du bien public*, whose office is to conduct any lawsuit, or to attend to any legal business relating to the parish, similar to a vestry clerk in England. Every vintaine has its own procureur.

In all criminal cases the *Procureur du Roi* is the prosecutor. •

Contrary to the order of procedure in England, every accusation is first examined by a petty jury, termed *l'enditement*, which is composed of the parochial constable, and twelve of his officers. To find a prisoner guilty, seven of these must agree. In this case he may appeal to a grand jury, called *la grand enquête*, composed of twenty-four persons, taken from the parish where the offence was committed, and the two neighbouring parishes. The person accused may, in prosecuting his appeal before *la grand enquête*, on valid grounds, object to any of the jurors : the

validity of the objection is decided by the court: five of the twenty-four are sufficient to acquit a prisoner.

A prisoner is not, as in the English criminal courts, found guilty or acquitted: the verdict of the jury is either, *plutot coupable qu'innocent*, or *plutot innocent que coupable*; and the punishment is awarded accordingly.

In all cases the prisoner is entitled to the gratuitous assistance of an advocate, who is assigned to him by the court.

When sentence of death is pronounced, it has been usual for the bailiff or his lieutenant, and the jurats, all of whom were before uncovered, to put on their hats; and the criminal kneels to receive his doom.

There were formerly three terms in the year, but one was abolished by the code of laws, confirmed in 1771: at present there are only two terms,—the first commencing on the Saturday next after the 11th of April, and ending on the 5th of July following; the second beginning on the Saturday next after the 11th of September, and ending on the 5th of December.

CHAPTER VII.

LAWS AND PECULIAR PRIVILEGES.

It will not be expected, in a work of this kind, to give more than a summary of the laws: and those will be selected that may be considered interesting to the visitor, or which may concern the trader.

The laws of Jersey are derived from five sources :—

1. The ancient laws of Normandy.
2. Municipal and local usages, similar to the common law of England.
3. Constitutions and ordinances, made by the sovereign in former times.
4. Acts passed by the States, either provisionally for three years, or made perpetual, when confirmed by the sovereign.
5. Such orders as may be transmitted from the council abroad, and sanctioned by the reigning monarch.

Former decisions and judgments, although not of equal force with laws enacted by the authority above stated, like precedents in England, are seldom departed from, except in very urgent cases.

Laws concerning Inheritance.

The custom of gavel-kind prevails in Jersey: but with this difference, that in Kent and other counties, males are

preferred to the exclusion of females, whereas, in Jersey, females may get a small share of the inheritance, and the eldest son has a portion above that of the younger.

A man cannot devise his landed property ; it must follow the law of succession. If there be a house on the estate, the eldest son takes it, with a certain portion of land, with other privileges, to enable him to pay off the rents that may be due. The remainder of the property is then divided : two-thirds go in equal proportions among the sons, the eldest having his proportion of this division ; and the remaining third to be equally divided among the daughters ; but in no case must a daughter have a larger portion than a son : there are other minutiae which belong to the division of property, but which are interesting only to those immediately concerned.*

Personal property may be devised : a will must be attested by two witnesses, whether in real or personal property, and must be made forty days before the testator's death, otherwise it is null and void. If the husband dies intestate, the wife takes one half, as in England, if there are no children, and one-third if there are ; the other two-thirds are equally divided among them.

Settlements previous to marriage are not usual, nor indeed necessary : a wife is invested with one-third of all the property of the husband, on her marriage ; and of all he may subsequently possess by inheritance, and which he cannot alienate without her consent ; nor is it affected by a bankruptcy : but she has no right to any proportion of what he may otherwise acquire.

If a man has a wife or children, he cannot alienate from them by will more than one-third ; if he has neither, all his property may be devised : furniture, plate, and linen are the property of the wife.

* In each parish, six appraisers are appointed, at the parish meeting : their business is to value the lands that are to be divided.

On the death of a wife, the widower takes her real estate if they have children, until he marries again ; in this case it goes to her next of kin, as it does if there are no issue.

If a Jerseywoman marries a foreigner, she loses her dowry, unless the husband becomes naturalized, which gives him all the privileges of a native.

Should any person be seen to be wasting his property, the heirs-at-law may, by applying to the court, and showing sufficient cause, have a guardian appointed ; in which case the proprietor loses all power over his effects ; and is considered in this, and some other respects, as in England a man would be against whom a statute of lunacy has been issued.

A man may legitimize his children born out of wedlock, by acknowledging them in church after marriage.

A man may be separated from his wife "*quant aux biens*," i. e. as regards property, by which she retains that which was her's before marriage, and it is not liable to the husband's creditors.*

The personal property of intestates is divided equally when there are only sons, or only daughters : but when there are both, the sons are entitled to two-thirds, and the daughters to the remainder, with the advantage to the eldest son already noticed.

All contracts or instruments giving a preference, contrary to law, to one child over another, may be set aside by proceedings commenced after the ancestor's decease.

Forty years' possession confers an absolute title to an estate.

* This was originally intended to secure a wife's property from waste by a husband, but it is too frequently used for a fraudulent purpose, by withholding from creditors, in case of insolvency, the joint property of man and wife. It is not, strictly speaking, a divorce, but rather a division of property : when thus separated, they are to each other as strangers in law.

Laws respecting Debtor and Creditor.

Debts are recoverable by legal process in the Royal Court.

An insolvent may make a voluntary cession of his property, for the benefit of his creditors, in which case he is said to renounce, *renoncer*; or he may be compelled to do so, by one of his creditors taking legal measures for that purpose. If the insolvent possess any real estate, the same is said to be *en decret*: a person denominated an *Attourné* is then appointed to conduct the proceedings, whose duty it is, by advertisement, to desire all persons having claims on the estate, to remit the same, within a given time, into the hands of the greffier. A schedule of the bankrupt's estate, and of the debts due upon it, is afterwards made out by the *attourné*, and the creditors having been summoned together, the person who has the most recent claim is required to declare whether he will take the insolvent's estate, in which case he would be subject to all previous incumbrances; but if he refuses, his debt is cancelled. A similar offer is then made to the next latest creditor, and so on, until the estate is so far disencumbered that some one of the creditors will accept it, on the condition of paying all those charges which are prior to his own. The person who so accepts the estate is called *Tenant*, and is put into possession of the insolvent's property, with the liabilities above mentioned, and the bankrupt is thenceforth discharged from his debts.

A debtor may also be declared to be, what is technically termed, *en disastre*, that is, in difficulties, a proceeding which is usually resorted to where he does not possess any real estate, or where the creditors wish to avoid the expense of a *decret*. This step is taken in open court at the instance of any creditor, and a day is appointed for

The legal interest of money is five per cent. Simple-contract debts bear no interest until after judgment has been given. Special debts, such as bills of exchange and promissory notes, after they have been noted, carry interest, unless they are made payable in Guernsey, where no interest is allowed.*

Miscellaneous Laws of a more General Character.

RENTS—The term *rent* is thus explained by Mr. Falle:—

“A rent may, originally, be created thus: a man who wants money, sells a quantity of wheat upon himself; that is, binds himself and his heirs, for ever, with the annual payment thereof; and this same rent shall, perhaps, afterwards pass from the first purchaser, through many hands successively.

“Thus again, the proprietor of a tenement, with land, lets it out to another, for so many quarters of wheat, for ever, yearly: nay, though it be but a house, with not a foot of land to it, as in the town, 'tis let in the same manner, for a rent in wheat, which seems absurd; yet such is our practice.”

Such was the origin of what, in Jersey, are called rents: they are now commuted for specific sums in money; but the term quarters is still current in the conveyances of estates: thus rents, being secured on immovable property, are very similar to mortgages in England.

Rents are considered as real and not as personal property. There is a difference in the rents. One sort is called *rente foncière*: this cannot be redeemed, except by consent of parties; but must remain a charge on the estate, or house, on the security of which it was raised. The

* Owing to the peculiarity of the laws as to insolvency, it is advisable for every non-resident having dealings in Jersey, to appoint an attorney there to watch his interest.

other is called *rente assignable*, or *rente créé*, which is redeemable at any time. Rente assignable, however, becomes *rente foncière*, unless assigned within forty years.

Rents in Jersey are regarded as a sort of funded property, and are constantly changing hands, in a similar manner : they are made payable at Michaelmas, and are transferred by a deed called *contrat*, (contract,) made on oath, in the presence of the bailiff and two jurats, and put under the seal of the Island. There are many singularities connected with these rents, to explain which would be uninteresting to the general reader ; but it would be advisable, before a stranger purchases Jersey rents, that he should consult some experienced person on the subject.

Leases are usually drawn for three, five, seven, or nine years, which is the longest term allowed by law. If a lessor becomes bankrupt, or by any act forfeits the estate, the lease become void.

In every parish is an annual meeting, called *la vendu du froment* ; at which meeting the rents of *le tresor de l'Eglise*, and of *la charité*, are put up to the highest bidder. The purchaser, who is called *le tresorier*, then fixes the price, in money, at which he will receive the rents, due from the several tenants of these establishments unless any prefer paying in kind. The king's receivers, and also the seigneurs, for the rents called *rentes seigneuriales*, have the same privilege as the *tresorier*. The price is generally a little under the market price of the day.

To prevent delay, or the unnecessary detention of persons engaged in commerce, or of any vessel lying in the harbour, priority is always given by the court to suits arising out of disputes connected with shipping, or mercantile affairs. These suits are called *causes d'amirauté*, or admiralty causes, and are heard in or out of term :

actions on bills of exchange and promissory notes are also privileged.

Powers of attorney for general purposes have no power until registered in the Court. Those for the sale of stock in England must be executed before a jurat, notary public, or consul.

Affidavits are sworn before the bailiff, or one of the jurats, and in some cases before the lieutenant-governor.

English merchants should embody in their invoices, and notes of hand, the words "British Sterling;" otherwise, they cannot recover in the court of Jersey more than currency. Promissory bills payable in London or elsewhere, for "Jersey currency," cannot be recovered in England.*

Forgery is punished only as a fraud, by imprisonment, whipping, pillory, or banishment. Forgery on the Bank of England, or government security, and counterfeiting the coin of the realm, may be tried in England.

Persons landing cattle from France without giving notice to the harbour-master, are liable to a penalty of 1000 livres.

All exciseable articles entered at a custom-house in England, may be taken back again by refunding the drawback and paying the incidental expenses.

No goods can be imported into, or exported from, the United Kingdom to the Channel Islands, excepting in British bottoms; and no ships are deemed British, unless registered as such, and navigated by a master and crew wholly British subjects. Vessels laden with stone from the Islands are not required to be piloted by licensed pilots.

Every article of the growth, produce, and manufacture of Jersey, is admitted into England, on payment only of

* As the law has adopted British currency, this is now considered unnecessary, though, as a measure of precaution, and to prevent any quibbling, it may as well be done.

the same duties as are imposed on similar articles grown, produced, or manufactured there.

Persons purchasing the produce of the Island, intended for exportation to Great Britain, must obtain an affidavit from the farmer that it is the growth of the Island, or such produce will be liable to seizure in England.

No goods prohibited to be imported into the United Kingdom from abroad, can be imported from the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, or Serk, although the manufacture of these Islands, if the materials of which such goods are made be the produce of a foreign country.

Aliens, on their arrival in the Island, are obliged to present themselves to the constable of the parish, who is bound to report their names to the governor; they are allowed to reside in the Island only during his pleasure.

Members of parliament and peers of the realm are liable to arrest in the Islands.

Acts of parliament regulating copyright have force in Jersey; thus English books protected by copyright cannot be printed there. Books printed in Jersey, and not affected by English copyright, are admitted into England on paying the duty of 3*d.* per lb.

Agreements, to be valid, must be witnessed by two disinterested persons who are of age.

A person charged with an assault is not only liable to be criminally tried for the offence by *enditement*, but can be sued for damages in a civil action, notwithstanding his previous acquittal or conviction.

When a convict is sentenced to transportation, he is sent, at the expence of the States, if a native of Guernsey, to that Island; if not, to any port in England which he shall choose, and there set at liberty.*

* It will excite a smile in an English reader, to consider England as a convict-colony to Jersey. The Town Council of Southampton has lately petitioned government against the practice, as a number of worthless persons have been thereby let loose on the town.

Felo-de-se is punished by confiscation of property, and the body is buried without religious ceremony.

Until lately no writ from the courts of Westminster, compelling attendance in England, could be served in Jersey; but by the 4th William IV., writs of subpoena from the courts of Chancery and Exchequer (it is presumed) have effect there.

The above is "An Act to explain and extend an Act of the second year of His present Majesty, to effectuate the service of process issuing from the Courts of Chancery and Exchequer, in England and Ireland. It recites that all writs of subpoena, or letters missive from those Courts "shall be and they are hereby extended to any defendant or defendants, in any suit or suits, as herein-before mentioned, who shall appear by affidavit to be residing in any place, specifying the same, out of the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland." It further enacts, if the defendant is secreting himself, so as to avoid being served personally, then "it shall be lawful for the Court to order that the service of the subpoena, to appear and answer, shall be substituted, in such manner as the Court shall think reasonable, and direct by such order."—Cap. 82.

A writ of habeas corpus has force in the Channel Islands, as they were especially included in the Act.

Peculiar Privileges.

The history of Jersey tells us how frequently it has been subject to attacks from enemies. The Island may be considered in the light of a frontier town, as this is usually favoured with peculiar privileges, to counterbalance the dangers to which it is exposed; and no country ever merited distinguished marks of royal favour more than Jersey.

There is no existing record respecting the privileges of the Island before the reign of King John: those

that it possessed under the preceding monarchs, or under its more ancient sovereigns, are not known. That monarch gave to Jersey and Guernsey a body of constitutions, probably founded on the old Norman laws and existing usages. Two great privileges were then granted—one, that no process, commenced before any magistrate of either Island, can be transferred out of it, but must be decided there,—the other, that no person, convicted of felony out of the Islands, is to forfeit the inheritances he may have in them, so as to deprive his heirs of their lawful possession. This does not, however, extend to a conviction in either Island. These two articles show how completely independent these Islands always were of the English courts of judicature.

Another most important privilege is, that they are exempted from the jurisdiction of the British courts, except that of the Admiralty, which, by an order in council, issued during the last war, included the Channel Islands: even acts of parliament passed by the British legislature have no force here, unless the Islands are especially named: and it was even contended formerly, that it was necessary to have the sanction of the Royal Court, and to be registered by it, before it was binding on them: this however will not now be urged, as an order in council, which is admitted to be imperative, has decided that this registration is not necessary.

The Islanders enjoy the double privilege of being governed by their own, that is, the old Norman laws; and have also the privileges of British-born subjects: yet, in the administration of their own laws, a British subject is, in some respects, considered as an alien, and subject to disabilities as such. This relates principally to the appointment, or the privilege of electing, to offices: but British subjects being freeholders, that is, possessing lands or rents, have all the privileges of natives. British residents, in general, are not taxed to the poor-rates, as an induce-

ment to their continuing in the Island : after a residence of a year and a day, they may claim to be rated, and then they have a right of voting, with the other privileges of natives.

From what has been observed it will be understood, that writs issued by the courts in Westminster, with the exception already noticed, cannot be served in these Islands ; as Lord Coke observed, " the king's writs runneth not into these Islands." The same eminent lawyer makes the following distinction in reference to them : " Though they are parcel of the CROWN of England, they are not parcel of the REALM of England."

The charter of Elizabeth confirmed all those granted by former sovereigns in their fullest extent, and she freed the Islanders from all tribute or toll of every kind whatsoever, that may be imposed throughout England : and even by a declaratory clause acknowledged that singular privilege, the neutrality of the Islands, even with nations with which England may be at war.*

The Royal Court tries all causes originating in the Island, whether civil or criminal, except those of treason, coining, or such as affect the Royal prerogative, nor can an appeal be made to any superior court in England. The only appellate jurisdiction is the sovereign in council. Commissioners have sometimes been appointed under the great seal, and have had extensive power in the Islands ; yet even the commissioners must decide according to the existing laws. While exercising their jurisdiction, the ordinary forms of justice are suspended.

The Islanders elect their own magistrates, with the exception of the bailiff.

* This fell into disuse soon after the reign of Elizabeth, and was finally annulled by William III.

A very particular account of this remarkable privilege is given in the enlarged edition of this work.

One of the ecclesiastical privileges is, the Islanders have the preference of being appointed to vacant benefices : thus no Englishman can hold a living in Jersey, while an inhabitant, in orders, prefers a claim.

Another ecclesiastical privilege is, as it respects benefices, pluralities are not allowed—no person can hold two livings.

No stamps are required either for bills, receipts, or conveyances of property.

The Island is protected from the impress service ; though native sailors found on board English vessels, and on shore, are liable to be pressed.

There are not any taxes, except the parochial rates for the indigent, and for the highways, and some small duties on wines and spirits. Levies are, however, sometimes made, for the purpose of defraying any extraordinary expenses ; but seldom large in amount.

CHAPTER VIII.

REVENUE, COINS, AND PECUNIARY SUBSTITUTES.

THE average annual amount of revenue received by the States, for the years 1810, 1811, and 1812, was somewhat more than 110,000 livres, French currency, which is about £4,600 British sterling.

This revenue, partaking of the general prosperity of the Island, has greatly increased; for a report made to parliament for the year 1821, gives the following result:—

	£	s.	d.
Revenue collected . . .	10,562	10	2
Expenditure . . .	5,062	10	5
Surplus	5,499	19	9

leaving near £5,500 to be expended on improvements in the Island; and taking an average of four years, ending December 31st, 1836, gives the amount of £14,632 3s. 1d. per annum, which, it will be observed, is an advance of nearly 50 per cent. in fifteen years; but since this last period the trade has so increased, that, in the year 1841, the revenue amounted to nearly £20,000.

The revenue arises from licences granted to tavern-keepers, rents in the market, duties on wines and spirits, harbour dues, &c.; and when an additional sum is required, and especially when it is for any particular object, a rate is levied on the inhabitants.

The duty on Spanish and Portuguese wines is £2 10s. per pipe; on French and Rhenish £1 10s. per pipe; on spirits one shilling per gallon: a publican pays £5 for his licence. The following statement may be considered an average of the different items to make up the total amount, as reported to parliament:—

	£	s.	d.
Duties on wines and spirits	7,250	0	0
Licences on public houses	500	0	0
Harbour dues, anchorage, &c.	2,250	0	0
Incidentals	562	10	2
	10,562	10	2

About an average increase has taken place on these articles, to make up the present amount of revenue.

The import duties on wines, liquors, &c., was granted by King Charles II. for the purpose of endowing a college, building a workhouse, erecting a pier at St. Aubin, and providing a magazine of arms: but the sum produced not being sufficient to accomplish all these objects, the whole was applied to the construction of the two piers at St. Helier and St. Aubin. The duties being now consolidated, they are applied to the public works, and the general improvement of the Island, after the current expenses and the interest of the debt have been paid.

No part of the revenue of either Island is applied to its defence; the British government defraying the whole of this expenditure, which, including that for the militia, is upwards of £20,000 per annum, from which is to be deducted the produce of the post-office, the revenue of which the government takes.

Although the income of the governor arises from the resources of the Island, yet it cannot be said to be paid from its revenue. At the time of the Reformation, government applied to its own use a very large portion of the

great tithes of ten parishes*, leaving very little more than the small tithes for the incumbent : the former is now received by the governor, amounting to somewhat more than £3,000 per annum ; but as he has to pay certain salaries to the officers of the Royal Court, and other sums chargeable on this revenue, to half the amount, the actual income arising from the Island does not greatly exceed £1,500 per annum.

The lieutenant-governor has a very small portion of the revenue of the Island : it consists of some fees, about £200 a year : his income arising from the public, is derived from his pay as a field-officer.

The coin current in Jersey was, until within a few years, chiefly that of France, with a small proportion of Spanish money ; these still continue, though not in a very small proportion. The total amount of specie in circulation has been estimated at £150,000 sterling. During the French revolutionary war, the coin of England came more generally into use, until the increased value of gold and silver completely drained the Island of all specie but copper, and even that became scarce. At this time, the banking houses in the town of St. Helier, and a few mercantile men, were accustomed to issue notes payable to the bearer on demand, for twenty-four livres French currency, or one pound sterling. So great, however, and so increasing were the inconveniences occasioned by the almost total disappearance of silver, that these houses were obliged to issue notes of five and ten shillings each : this induced other individuals to do the same, for sums as low as one shilling, all having

* The tithes of St. Saviour are annexed to the deanery : those of St. Helier were granted to Sir E. Carteret ; these latter have passed by purchase and inheritance through several hands : of late years a considerable portion has been sold to several land owners, so that a great part of the parish of St. Helier is now tithe free.

the high-sounding title of "Jersey Bank:" it may well be supposed that the Island became inundated with the notes of these *soi-disant* bankers, many of them the lowest description of traders and publicans. Alarming as this was, necessity gave them a general circulation; until, at length, it was put an end to by an order in council, forbidding the circulation of notes under £1 sterling.

Seeing the evil of this state of things, the States issued silver coins of eighteen-pence and three shillings, to the amount of £10,000 sterling, and an additional sum was afterwards issued: this did not long remain in circulation: the general distrust occasioned by the uncertain value of the paper money, caused it to be hoarded; thus was the object defeated, and in 1834, this coinage was called in: its place, however, is now well supplied by a large introduction of British silver and gold, which, however, still bears a premium.

The circulation of paper money is still much complained of, as it is not confined to professed bankers, but societies and many private individuals, whose credit is not so well established, issue notes.* If the States were to pass a law requiring some kind of security for the amount of notes issued, it would go far to remove the evil.

British silver is the legal tender of the Island.

The public debt due by the States, is about £50,000: this is owing to individuals for money borrowed; to the Savings' bank, and a small sum borrowed of *La Société des Secours mutuels* (Benevolent Society): these sums are secured on the revenue of the Island.

* See more on this subject in Chap. IV. on Banking.

CHAPTER IX.

THE TOWN OF ST. HELIER.

Approach from the Sea ; surrounding Scenery ; the Harbour ; the Royal Square ; the Court House ; Market-place ; Price of Provisions ; Fort Regent ; Elizabeth Castle ; Ecclesiastical Buildings ; Hospital—Poor House, and Prison ; Public Library ; the Parade ; Theatre and Assembly Rooms, Baths, &c.

THE present work being principally intended for the English visiter, it may be supposed that he has made the work his travelling companion, and himself acquainted, during his voyage to the Island, with its general history, its statistics, its government, its laws, peculiar privileges, and such other particulars as are noticed in it, and that he is now to be introduced to its localities.

Should the vessel in which he may be embarked first make the north-west corner of the Island, he will be struck by its bold features, its prominent and rugged coast, not so much studded with detached rocks as in the south-eastern part, but by high projecting and enormous masses, which are to be seen along a considerable part of the coast, in a line with which his course will now be, stretching from Cape Grosnez to L'Etac ; he will next sail by the bay of St. Ouen, until he again falls in with the rugged masses of rock, terminating with a noted pile called *La Corbiere*.

The scenery, on his rounding Noirmont point, will immediately engage his attention. In the centre of a large and beautiful bay stands Elizabeth Castle, which, should his approach be at the time of low water, will appear to be situated on the main land; but, as the tide flows, it becomes an island: on the same rock as the Castle, stands the Hermitage, which has been already noticed*; on the right, situated on what was formerly the town-hill, is Fort Regent, deemed almost impregnable: it has been styled a second Gibraltar. Under this fortress, lie the harbour and the town of St. Helier. The eye stretching to the left, will rest on the town of St. Aubin, with its harbour and protecting fort: so beautiful is this bay, from a point which embraces these various objects, combined with the country intervening between the towns, behind which rises a fine range of wooded cultivated heights, studded with numerous villas, forming a back ground to the picture—so enchanting is this scene in its general effect, that it has been compared to the bay of Naples.

Should the state of the tide allow him to enter the harbour, after passing the water-gate, the voyager will find himself in a most capacious dock; but, capacious as it is, not sufficiently so to accommodate the whole trade of the Island: he will find every convenience for landing, and certainly no lack of importunity to repair to the various inns, hotels, and boarding-houses, which are to be found in the town: having made his selection, the guide will provide conveyance for his luggage, and conduct him to his temporary abode.

The town may be said to be divided into two parts, and, like the northern metropolis, may be called the old and new town; or the old town may more properly be likened to the city of London in the time of queen Elizabeth, when

* See Ecclesiastical History.

there were scarcely any suburbs ; but with these added, it may be said to be London in its present state, though in miniature. These great additions have mostly been made during the continuance of the revolutionary war, and since the peace : Jersey before that time was comparatively little known.

The town is not so intricate but a stranger will easily find his way, after one or two general surveys, to any part* : our plan will therefore be, to describe the various public buildings, and other objects worthy of notice, not so much with regard to their locality, as to the circumstances which more immediately connect them with each other.

St. Helier is the seat of government and of justice ; the centre of business, of fashion, and of amusement. These have, in the course of only a few years, so increased, that it now contains more than one-third of the whole population of the Island.

The town itself consists of upwards of two thousand houses, besides many that are, in every direction, scattered through the environs. It has undergone a very rapid increase and improvement, such as few other places have experienced. Not many years since, it was chiefly comprised in two streets, running nearly in parallel lines : the western entrance was under an old, confined, and ill-contrived prison : this has been taken down, and a new spacious edifice has been built. The principal avenue of the town is Broad Street ; which, contracted at first, widens as it proceeds towards the Square, or old market place. Several shops that projected into the street have been removed, which has greatly improved its appearance. There are leading into the square four carriage-ways, and one

* A plan of the town, on a very large scale, has been engraved from a survey made by Mr. E. Le Gros, civil engineer : it is delineated with great minuteness of detail and accuracy.

foot-way : several new streets have lately been built in different directions.

Anciently all the houses were substantial stone edifices with small windows, consequently gloomy; and the greater number were thatched. Now they are mostly built of brick, and even those of early date are, in general, modernised. The pavement was likewise very uneven; at the present time, nearly every street has a regular carriage road, paved with a very hard granite, with as broad a pavement as the width will admit. The shops were formerly of a most gloomy and forbidding aspect: in most places these have been succeeded by others, light, airy, and inviting; and in the course of a few more years, every part will partake of the same character. The town is now lighted with gas, a most valuable improvement, as it was before not lighted at all.

The square is ornamented with a statue, in a Roman military costume, elevated on a stone pedestal.* The square was, a few years ago, paved with flat *Mont Mado* stones, so that now it is a pleasant and a convenient promenade, mostly used by mercantile men.

On one side of this square is *La Cohue*, or Court House, a solid but plain structure, built in 1647. In this building is held the Assembly of the States, together with the Courts of Civil and Criminal Judicature. The building contains a full-length portrait, as large as life, of the late Marshal Conway, who was formerly governor of Jersey; it was painted by Gainsborough; and a portrait of George III. in his robes of state, painted by Mr. Jean, a native of the Island.

Government house, the town residence of the lieutenant-

* Gough, in his edition of Camden, says it is a statue of George II.: other accounts state that it is of Charles II.: it is neither, but it was preserved from a wreck, and placed there merely as an ornament to the square. It does, however, represent some person of high rank, as the knee is decorated with the order of the garter.

governor, was formerly near the square. In the early part of 1822, the whole of this property was exchanged for Belmont, an elegant newly-erected mansion, near St. Saviour's church, embellished with gardens and pleasure grounds, which is now the residence of the lieutenant-governor.

The only market was formerly in the Royal Square. A singularly neat and convenient set of covered sheds, with broad open spaces at intervals, is now erected: the main entrance is in Halkett Place, between iron gates, and massive stone pillars. Adjoining to the general market is another for fish, in the same style; and a place in the vicinity has been walled in for a cattle market, with spacious covered sheds. The general market days are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday; but the articles supplied from France, especially fruit and vegetables, now come in such constant succession, that they may be purchased almost every day.

Formerly there was a Corn market in the town, but it no longer exists, as it is now principally supplied with flour from England; and as the country inhabitants consume the greater part of their own produce, it is no longer necessary.

Some information with respect to the price of provisions will be acceptable to the stranger. Jersey is not so noted as Guernsey for a good supply of fish, neither is it so cheap as in the sister Island: this may be accounted for, partly by a greater number of persons being employed in the occupation of fishing in Guernsey, and partly by the taste of the Islanders requiring a larger supply.

Butchers' meat is somewhat cheaper than in England, and its quality is generally good; but being mostly of French beasts, must not be compared with that of London, or even with the best in country towns in England. Fruit is very cheap; but the produce of the Island is far superior

to that brought from France. Tea and coffee are about two thirds of the price in England, and sugar scarcely more than half: rice, currants, and other dried fruits, are considerably cheaper. But the greatest difference of price is in wines and spirits, especially the latter, which bear so high a duty in England: the best Cognac brandy may be bought at 7s. the gallon; rum and hollands at 3s. 6d. Excellent port wine, according to its age; from two to six years in bottle, from 20s. to 25s. per dozen; inferior from 15s. to 18s. Jersey butter has three high recommendations; it is excellent in quality, moderate in price, and 17½oz. to the pound weight. The market is well supplied with game from France, as well as with the various kinds of poultry—indeed, few markets in England have a better supply than that of St. Helier.

Other articles of household expenditure, such as wearing apparel and servants' wages, are about the same price as in England; but furniture, if Jersey made, or brought from France, is considerably cheaper. There is, however, one drawback on cheap living in Jersey, and that is, house rent, which is somewhat higher than in a populous country town in England. This may be easily explained: although a considerable number of new houses have been built, still the demand keeps above the supply, and time is of course required to build more, to meet the demand.

Many houses are furnished with wells; but the greater part of the town lying in a low situation, and on the sea shore, the water is not, in that district, remarkable for its purity: there are, however, some springs of excellent quality; and the recently discovered mode of procuring water by boring, having been employed in the Island, has furnished a good supply.

The *Mont de la Ville*, or Town Hill, is a long insulated rock, elevated 150 feet above high-water mark. Its northern extremity rises so close to the town of St. Helier, that,

before it became the property of government, the gardens of several houses were continued in repeated hanging terraces to its summit. In order to render the fortress which has been built on it less accessible, the rock has been cut down, and thus a vertical section exposed. It exhibits a broken upper surface, the chasms of which are filled up with small pieces of the same rock.

The hill was purchased by government, and on it has been erected a fortress, which, being built during the regency, is called Fort Regent: the foundation was laid in 1806; it covers four acres of ground, is built of granite, and is bomb proof; indeed, nothing that art or expense could accomplish seems to have been wanting to render this fortress impregnable; it possesses all the usual defences; it has its bastions, and outworks, and glacis: the magazine is so capacious, that it will contain 5000 barrels of powder. The whole of the magazines and barracks are in the bastions, and under the ramparts. It is amply supplied with water from a well nearly 250 feet deep, 200 of which are cut through a solid rock; at the opening it is fourteen feet in diameter; the water is excellent, the daily supply of which is from 6 to 8000 gallons. Stores for ammunition are hewn out of the solid rock. The total expense of erecting this citadel is said to have been a million sterling. The amount paid by government to the vintaine, for the hill on which Fort Regent is built, was no less than £11,280.* The approach to the fortress is by a narrow street near the church, or by a flight of steps on the east side of the pier, which also conducts to the same point. The immediate entrance is up a long inclined plane, protected by a battery of several

* A project for fortifying this hill was entertained, as early as the reign of Edward VI.: the Duke of Somerset was then governor of the Island. An ordinance, dated April 6, 1550, is still extant, in which the inhabitants were recommended to construct fortifications there, wherein they might find a place of safety, in the event of an invasion.

guns that could be brought to bear on this point, and is so commanding as to make it almost impossible that an entrance could be forced.

It has already been observed, that Elizabeth Castle was built during the reign of our renowned queen of that name. Charles I. made great additions to this fortress ; he built the lower ward, and otherwise added to its defences : the rock on which it stands, including the Hermitage, is a mile in circuit. It is accessible at low water from the shore, by a bridge of earth, raised above the level of the sand, but as the tide flows it is insulated. Since the erection of Fort Regent, it is principally to be considered as a defence for the bay : in this view it may be important as an out-work against shipping, as they approach : at present a few artillery-men only mount guard within its walls. The fortress is of much greater extent than would be supposed from its exterior appearance, and is well worthy of a visit by the stranger.

The Church stands on the west side of the Royal Square : it is more modern than any other in Jersey, having been consecrated A.D. 1341. It might, from this circumstance, be supposed to have been subject to fewer alterations than others ; whereas not one has undergone more : this was probably occasioned by enlargements at different periods, as an increasing population made them necessary.

Over the centre of the northern aisle rises a tower, of no great height, faced with square masonry, and surmounted with a parapet. It is quadrangular, with the exception of a small projection on one side for a staircase. This tower appears of later date than the other parts of the building.

The church has been materially beautified internally within the space of a few years, and a neat organ erected by voluntary subscription. Several monuments are affixed to its walls, but none of an earlier date than the 17th

century. One of them is commemorative of the death of Major Pierson*, who so bravely fell in repelling the French invasion in 1781: this was erected at the public expense, as a grateful commemoration of his services, and as a tribute to his valour and decisive conduct in the attack.

Besides the parochial church, there are two episcopal Chapels—St. Paul's and St. James's; the former is in New-street, the latter in St. James's-street: they are both modern erections, and the services in both are performed in English. There is also a chapel of ease, which stands in an open space at the entrance of the town from St. Aubin. The various denominations of Dissenters have their respective places of worship; and there are two Roman Catholic chapels, in one of which the service is performed in French, and the other in English.

At the western extremity of the town is the public Hospital and Poorhouse for the whole Island. This establishment has been greatly assisted by legacies and contributions: the general number of inmates may be averaged at a hundred, of which not more than two thirds are natives of the Island. This building has been enlarged: the funds for this purpose were supplied by the late Charles Robin, Esq., who left to the institution a legacy of £2500: this munificent bequest has enabled the trustees to build a chapel for the inmates, and to provide for the payment of a chaplain.

Near the hospital is the new Prison: this is a handsome building, in an airy situation; the cells for the male criminals are on the ground floor, each nine feet square. A space under an arcade is allowed them for exercise, and they have a common room, with a fire during the winter. Half the upper story, with a separate staircase, is for the female criminals, who have a private yard for exercise.

* See General History.

The debtors occupy the remaining half of the top floor, consisting of twelve rooms.

At this skirt of the town is a large empty space, called *Les Mielles*. It was until lately covered by sandy hillocks. General Don caused the whole to be levelled, formed into a lawn, and enclosed with a dwarf wall. It is now converted into a parade, and round part of it runs a gravelled walk.

The town possesses a public Library: the building was erected at the expense of the Rev. Philip Falle, the historian of the Island; who presented to it a valuable collection of books, to which the late Rev. Dr. Dumaresq made a considerable addition; and the States vote an annual grant of £100 to be laid out in the purchase of modern publications. This is a most valuable acquisition, as the library formerly consisted of old works, and mostly on divinity: it contains upwards of 6000 volumes. The annual subscription is very moderate. There are several Reading Societies, and other private associations. Newspapers, both in English and French, are published on different days in the week.

The Theatre stands in the centre of a crescent, at the east side of the town: it is a modern structure, built in 1827. English and French comedians perform occasionally. There is also a minor Theatre in Regent Road; this is principally engaged by amateur performers. The Assemblies and Concerts are held at the Royal Yacht Club Hotel, on the pier. They commence in October, and continue through the winter, every fortnight. There is usually a Fancy Ball during the season.

The Baths are situated in Bath-street. Hot and cold, with either salt water or fresh, and shower baths, may be had from seven in the morning till ten at night: the charges are moderate. A reading room is connected with the baths, in which some of the London and provincial English papers

are taken in, with a few periodical publications. There are also bathing machines on the sands at Gréve d'Azette.

There are several Benevolent Societies established in the town, a list and particulars of which will be found in the Appendix to this work.

In the towns are several Hotels, respectable Inns, and Boarding-houses. Steam Packets are constantly sailing from Jersey to Weymouth and Southampton : they always stop at Guernsey, to receive or land passengers. The reader is also referred to the Appendix for a particular account of these, with the times of their sailing, and many other particulars alluded to in the body of the work.

We cannot finish this account of the town, without alluding to some valuable observations of Dr. Hooper, in his work already quoted, on the comparative salubrity of the respective towns of St. Helier and St. Aubin. The patient who comes to Jersey for the benefit of his health would do well to consult this before he fixes on the place of his abode.

CHAPTER X.

THE INHABITANTS.

Physical Peculiarities; Sketch of general Character; Vraiking; Pic-nic Parties; Amusements; Theatricals; Balls and Concerts; Races.

THE person of a Jerseyman is about the middle size; it is very unusual to see a remarkably tall man: he retains much of the physical characters of his two originals, the Celts and Scandinavians, especially in the northern districts of the Island, where the race has suffered the least admixture. The hair is mostly dark brown or light chestnut: the features sharp and intelligent, though a skilful physiognomist would probably discover much that is harsh and phlegmatic: the complexion is generally tawny, the limbs are muscular, not bulky—well adapted for active labour. An agricultural labourer is not so clownish in his manner as one of the same grade in England: this is to be ascribed to his being trained to military exercises, which would necessarily improve his deportment. Of the females it has been observed, “though comely and well-built, they are more remarkable for neatness of figure than elegance of stature and regular beauty.” There is something peculiar in the gait of a Jerseyman, though not sufficiently marked to distinguish him from an Englishman or a Frenchman.

There will not be much difficulty in the delineation of

the character of a Jerseyman : hypocrisy is not a prominent feature—he is what he appears to be. A deportment amounting to bluntness and rudeness has been charged on him. These are comparative terms : an Islander in the society of persons in England, scarcely a degree above himself, would be deemed deficient in good manners, though scarcely chargeable with being either blunt or rude. Our language has not a word that will correctly express his character in this respect. The French would say he is *brusque*. Occasional admixture with society above his own rank, and which is only to be found in large communities, can only remove this, and communicate ease of manner, and a greater measure of exterior polish.

There is an independence of character in a Jerseyman, which may in some measure contribute to the feature already noticed, and this is easily explained : he is generally an independent man, either living on his own property, or possessed of rents : almost all have political rights—they elect their own judges and magistrates : this of itself every Englishman will allow must induce a feeling of independence, by bringing him more in contact and temporary equality with his superiors, and more frequently than in England. Party spirit certainly runs very high in Jersey, the whole Island being ranged on one side or the other. The old distinctions of *Magot* and *Charlot* have given way to those of *Rose* and *Laurel* : the liberals take the Rose as their emblem, the high party in church and state the Laurel. Thus island politics but a few years ago absorbed all their thoughts, beyond their own individual concerns ; and party strife was found too much mixed up even with these : the politics of England, or even of the world generally, engaged very little of their attention—they lived in a world of their own.

The constant and regular intercourse which now subsists between the Island and England, has in some measure

modified this peculiar feeling. The higher, and some portions of the middle classes, now wait with some anxiety the arrival of the English newspapers, which are brought over every day during the summer months, either from Weymouth or Southampton, and are found discussing general politics, and even the debates in parliament, with zeal and energy, in their news-rooms and clubs.

Frugality is a very prominent feature in a Jerseyman : this within its proper limit is commendable,—every man is bound to provide for his present household, and for those who are to succeed him ; but when it trenches on liberality as a duty, when it shuts the heart and hand to the calls of humanity, frugality no longer ranks among the virtues,—then it degenerates into parsimony, and will most likely end in avarice. This has certainly been charged on the Islanders, and perhaps with some truth : their excuse must be found in their insular situation, and the minute subdivision of their property, which requires that they should make the most of what they possess. It should however be observed, that the many benevolent societies in the Island show that they are not so regardless of other claims, besides those of their own family, as their accusers would lead us to imagine.

Whatever there may be of justness in the charge, it is principally to be found in the country, and with the farmer, who is little disposed to lay out money : economy, carried to an undue extent, is generally inconsistent. If a Jersey farmer will give his seed-wheat to the poultry, as some have said, rather than buy ; so have we heard of very *economical* English ladies, who would expend eight or ten shillings in coach-hire, in driving to a part of London, reputedly cheap, and save in their purchase about half that sum. There is however one point on which the frugality of the Islanders strikingly appears, and this mostly concerns the higher orders : the learned professions, whether of the

law or physic, are not sufficiently remunerated for the expenses of their education. It may excite some surprise, that this has not prevented eminent men from settling on the Island.

Some Englishmen have been known to complain of a want of hospitality in the Islanders : if there be any foundation for the charge, a consideration of the state of things alluded to in the above remarks, will go far to remove it : and it should not be forgotten that strangers, coming to a place where they are not known, are expected to bring with them an introduction, before they can be received into good society.

There is an absence of pride in a Jersey lady which stands connected with frugality : heads of families of a second order generally go to market themselves, and most commonly carry home their purchases in baskets they take for that purpose.

Although Jersey has produced some learned men, and a few eminently so, yet, taking the community as a whole, it cannot be said to be literary : there is little either of knowledge or taste for the fine arts or belles-lettres. The liberal annual donation of the States for the purchase of new books, to enlarge the public library, and the other causes already noticed, have certainly had the effect of improving its character in this respect : a sensible difference has been perceived within a few years.

Vraiking, or Vraik gathering, is an occupation peculiarly important to a Jerseyman, who has land to cultivate ; for on the quantity he may collect of this beneficent boon of nature, will mainly depend the product of his next year's crop. The time of gathering this manure is fixed by the States, and is restricted to twice in the year, except when boisterous weather may have detached portions of it from the surrounding rocks, and driven it on the coast,

and even the gathering of this is controlled by authority. The time of general *vraiking* is fixed to commence some time about the middle of March, and towards the end of July : it lasts about ten days. It is a season of great interest to the Islanders, and a scene of amusing bustle and activity to the stranger. Parties of eight or ten persons usually associate, and agree to assist each other, as in their agricultural labours. They provide themselves with a short scythe, not unlike an English reap-hook, and a thick covering for the leg, to protect it from accidents. The provender for the day usually consists of cakes made for the occasion, called "*vraiking cakes*," and a keg of cider : thus accoutred and provided, they proceed to the coast with their carts, and thence to the rocks which are accessible ; but as the tide flows, or when the scene of labour is among the more distant rocks, boats are employed to bring the rich boon to the shore. It is not only a season of interest, but of great merriment—as is the *harvesting* in England, so is the *vraiking* in Jersey ; and if some of the noviciates get a few tumbles on the rocks, occasioned by the slippery nature of their standing-ground, it only adds to the merriment at the time, and serves for amusement when the labours of the day are finished.

The beautiful bay of St. Aubin is well adapted for excursions on the water : but these seem not to attract the inhabitants of the town, nor are they more inclined to frequent the walks that the vicinity presents. It is not difficult to account for this disregard to amusements that excite so much interest in a country town or watering-place in England. Scarcely any of the natives are without country relatives : *mon cousin* and *ma cousine* connect half the families of the Island. Visits of a few days or weeks to friends at a distance, are preferred to the pleasure of a sail or a walk in the country.

There is, however, a recreation which is also practised

and enjoyed in England,—“gipsying parties,” in which the *pic-nic* system is adopted, and are not unfrequent : for these the Island offers many inducements—the lofty eminences presenting a most extended sea-view, and regaling the party with refreshing breezes ; or should the state of the weather require a more sheltered spot, the rich valleys that are to be found in all directions furnish the desired shade ; while the shore and the caves present their peculiar attractions, as taste or circumstances may invite.

Although there is a Theatre, and a room for Balls and Concerts, as noticed in the preceding chapter, yet it cannot be said that either is well attended : the inhabitants are certainly not addicted to such kind of amusements, and the visitors are either disposed to fall in with the taste of the natives, or are not sufficiently numerous of themselves to sustain them. There is not encouragement for a good company to make occasional visits to the Island, and such as have hitherto appeared on the boards have not sufficient histrionic powers to induce a change in the taste either of the islanders or visitors. This may be lamented by a few, but considering the effect which theatrical amusements have on the mind and morals, and especially of the young, there may be no great cause for regret. Balls and concerts are not well attended : this also may be a measure be ascribed to the same cause which influences the other. Card parties are more to the taste of the islanders, and suit better with their habits of friendly intercourse with each other : they indulge in this amusement to a considerable extent.

The Jersey and English society do not much intermingle in what may be called social parties : the natives, being so much linked together by relationship in various degrees, are naturally led to associate among themselves : this is the main cause of their confining their visits so much

among each other, and not to a wish on their part to exclude those English residents, who have been properly introduced, with whom the higher orders do occasionally meet in large parties.

There are occasionally Races on the sands, which certainly furnish a species of amusement, although not of a character so exciting as that felt at Newmarket or Epsom, but probably far less pernicious.

The English sportsman will not expect to find indulgence for his favourite pursuits in Jersey: the limited extent of the Island altogether precludes "Field Sports," and "good Izaak Walton" would not have endured a summer's residence there.

Oh! my beloved Nymph, fair Dove,*

Princess of rivers, how I love

Upon thy flow'ry banks to lie,

And view thy silver stream,

When gilded by a summer beam,

And in it all thy wanton fry

Playing at liberty,

And with my angle upon them,

(The all of treachery

I ever learnt) industriously to try."

Walton's Angler.

Although few places are better supplied with running water, flowing in various directions, yet they deserve no higher term than rivulets, and do not approach to what, in piscatory language, are called "streams."

* The river Dove flows between the counties of Derby and Stafford.

CHAPTER XI.

TOUR ROUND THE COAST.

"Undertake at all events a pedestrian tour round the Island. Descend into the bays, double the headlands, and skirt the cliffs. This is the way to see an island: many fine scenes and singular spots escape one, if excursions be only directed to particular points."

Inglic.

It is proposed in this Tour round the Island to notice only those bold features and natural curiosities, which probably have existed from before the period when it became inhabited: the buildings and other works of man, whether mansions, or castles, or Druid temples, which may fall in our way, will be passed by with a cursory remark, to be noticed more particularly in the tour through the parishes.

The coast tour may be performed in two days, taking the northern centre of the Island for the conclusion of the first day; where the traveller may get very good accommodation at an hotel at Greve de Lesq, the barracks which stood on the heights above the bay being now devoted to the purpose: or, as the distance is only five miles from town, he might return to his hotel, and by traversing the same road the next morning, he may start from the point which he left the evening before.

The reader need scarcely be informed that this should either be a pedestrian tour, or performed *en cavalier*: if the latter, he should provide himself with a person to attend to his horse while visiting spots inaccessible on horseback.

It is proposed to commence the tour from the town of St. Helier : on leaving which, the tourist will be conducted along a part of the southern shore : and from thence, turning northwards, skirt the eastern side of the Island. After having proceeded thus far, the next course will be that of winding among the sinuosities of the high northern boundary ; then stretching along the western extremity, turn again to the southern barrier. Having pursued this outline, he will enter St. Helier on the western side.

On leaving St. Helier, the first striking object is an assemblage of high rocks, all insulated at half flood, on one of which stands Elizabeth Castle. This chain is encompassed with the rugged surfaces of lower masses, rendering the approach of an enemy both difficult and hazardous. These rocks divide St. Aubin's Bay into two parts, one of which is called the great road, and the other the small road.

Ancient records inform us that, about A.D. 565, and probably for several subsequent ages, the range of rocks just noticed constituted part of the mainland of Jersey : on the summit of one of them is a small but substantial stone building, called the Hermitage, in days of legendary fame the secluded cell of a martyred ascetic, from whom the town of St. Helier received its name. From the harbour the road is continued round a part of the hill on which stands Fort Regent, until it descends to a small rocky inlet, called *Havre des pas*, from which, at a short distance, we pass through a small village, called *Le Dicq*. From this village we pass along a low flat surface, bordered on the right by the sea, and on the left by rising umbrageous grounds, which separate the parish of St. Clement from that of Grouville. At a short distance from the village the tourist will pass the bathing machines on the shore, at Grève d'Assette. When the tide rises to its full height, the sea view is remarkably fine, and highly pictu-

resque, exhibiting a number of islets; but as the tide recedes, very different is the appearance: the whole coast being laid open, discloses a terrifying congeries of rugged rocks, varying in height and dimensions, which appear to render all access to the Island absolutely impracticable. In fact, the whole coast line from Elizabeth Castle to the long and narrow point which forms the southern boundary of Grouville bay, is completely studded with irregular rocky masses; and this natural embossed shield is rendered more eminently defensive, by the strong and varying currents that intersect its craggy protuberances.

Continuing along the beach, St. Clement's church appears on the left, erected on rising ground inland, and commanding from its tower a boundless sea prospect, while a beautifully diversified landscape fills up the intermediate space. Another mile will bring the tourist to La Roque; from thence a projection, composed of low rocks, stretches out for more than two miles into the sea. On one of the most distant of these crags stands Seymour tower, nearly two miles from the shore at high water, but it may be approached on foot when the tide is low. La Roque terminates the southern coast of Jersey. Directing his course northwards, along the eastern shore, he will follow the sea-line to the termination of Grouville bay at Mont Orgueil.

Grouville bay will now display itself to great advantage. It forms a beautiful curve, and when a fresh breeze ruffles its waves at full flood, it presents an interesting sea view; especially when the scene is enlivened by a little fleet of oyster vessels in the bay. The appearance of Seymour tower is very striking from this point; for though at low water it seems situated on the land, it is completely insulated soon after the flood begins to rise. It then looks like a tall column in the midst of the surrounding waters.

Approaching Mont Orgueil, he will pass over a sandy level, and see the ancient village of Gorey on the left,

which he will enter by a winding descent. This village is mostly inhabited by persons connected with the oyster fishery.

The castle of Mont Orgueil, named also the Old Castle, was once an impregnable fortress; but, since the invention of gunpowder, its lofty bulwarks have been suffered to decay. From it there is an extensive view of the French coast, at a distance of five or six leagues from its nearest point.

A little beyond Mont Orgueil is a projection called Geoffrey's rock; from which, according to traditionary report, criminals were formerly precipitated into the sea: hence it is called *Saut Geoffrey*, or Geoffrey's leap. To the N. E. of Mont Orgueil, and about a league from the shore, a long range of low rocks, named *Ecrehou*, emerges from the sea, and presents an additional barrier to this side of the island.

Proceeding northwards*, the coast assumes a more imposing character than that which is displayed in the former part of the tour: the craggy summits exhibit a variety of fantastic forms; they seem to vie with each other for superiority, and present an appearance somewhat grotesque; they reflect from the swelling bosses, that jut out from the greensward, a profusion of tints; while the heaving surge breaks against their bases; and, in recoiling, traces a long streak of silvery foam on the ruffled surface.

After skirting the indented coast for some time, by a tolerable bridle-way scooped out of the solid mass, at about half its elevation, the view opens on the bay of St. Catherine. This bold inlet is more circumscribed than that of Grouville; but the sublime and the beautiful are here finely contrasted.

* If this tour be taken on foot, the pedestrian should be informed that there is a path along the shore, which continues as far as Rosel bay.

On a rock, insulated as the tide flows into the bay, stands Archisondal tower, which seems erected to protect the magic scene. A little to the northward of that fortification is a bed of pipe clay, which is seldom applied to any purpose, though said to be of an excellent quality : it is overflowed at high water, and is frequently covered with sand.

Continuing to follow the marine line, we sweep round several smaller inlets, forming coves along the coast, which now tends to the N. W. ; these shallow retreats from storm are protected by bold headlands, that divert the rapid currents, and afford shelter from boisterous winds. On the northern side of St. Catherine's bay a mountainous pudding-stone rock rises abruptly from the sea, called *La Coupe*. This, and another of nearly the same description, occupy the whole N. E. corner of the Island ; until the farthest of them terminates at Bouley bay.

We now approach *Le Couperon*, an elevated projection towards the sea, descending from which, into a narrow valley, the road leads to the summit of another height, from whence another declines to *Havre de Rosel*, a small semicircular basin bounded by high rocks. This beautiful little port affords a residence to a number of fishermen.

From this point of the Island we now turn to the westward, and trace a deeply indented coast, formed of rocky cliffs, that rise occasionally to the height of forty or fifty fathoms. Continuing the route, with the ocean on the right, the inland prospect on the left is highly interesting. The intermixture of hill and dale, of pasture and arable land, of light and shade, affords a pleasing contrast to the bold sea view on the opposite side.

Descending a serpentine road to the pebbly beach, a noble gulf, named Bouley bay, opens to view ; characterized, like the bays of Rosel and St. Catherine, by an outline of gigantic rocks, that stretch from *Tour de Rosel*

to *Belle Hougue*. From the heights that overlook the bay is a very extensive marine prospect. The north-eastern horizon skirts a considerable portion of Lower Normandy : while, in the north, appear the islands of Guernsey, Alderney, and Serk, with their dependencies. The intervening watery expanse contains the long defensive range of Ecrehou, Les Dirouilles, and the Paternosters.

Turning from the wildness of Bouley, and directing his course a little inland, the tourist will be again gratified with the charms of extensive cultivation. The road will conduct him by Trinity Church, from which a short and pleasant ride leads to the sea at *Bonne Nuit*. This is a small port, formed by an inlet between two projecting points. *Bonne Nuit* is bounded on the land side by rocky cliffs of immense height, whose declivities display no other covering than a scanty portion of short herbage, variegated by the purple and yellow tints of heaths, broom, and gorse.

On one of those elevations called *Mont Mado*, are large quarries of sienite.* In several places the quarries, no longer wrought, are converted into fish ponds.

Somewhat to the left is St. John's Church : pursuing the route from this point, the most usual road declines from the bold promontory of *Fremont*, and leads through a pleasant, but not greatly diversified, part of the country. A more romantic road skirts the coast ; this, though gratifying the eye with greater variety, is attended with much difficulty, and even with danger. To follow the narrow tracks of sheep and goats along a shelving path, on the very brink of rugged precipices, where the acclivity is so steep as to render it difficult to preserve a seat on horse-

* The tourist will not deem it lost time to pay a visit to these quarries ; they furnished the stone with which many of the old houses are built : it is preferred to any other in the Island, as it works readily, and a flat surface is easily attained. Fort Regent and the new prison are built with it, and considerable quantities are shipped to England.

back, would indeed be hazardous : it would be particularly desirable at this spot to dismount, and enjoy the prospect in safety.

Crossing the point of *Ronés*, there is, on a height, an assemblage of large blocks, seemingly half buried in the earth, that, even to an antiquary, present a very questionable appearance. Sorel point is seen in the distance, on the right.

Though, in following the sea line from Fremont, the surface of the ground is extremely irregular, rising and falling continually and rapidly, yet, inland, the roads are level and good : should this course be adopted, a road will conduct to St. Mary's church, and thence to Grève de Lecq.

In the centre of a bay formed between the two promontories of Sorel and Plemont, is a beautiful cave, called *Grève de Lecq* ; the extensive outline between these points is broken in various places by angular projections. The extremities have been torn off by the violence of contending waves, and now form ledges of low sharp rocks, which are rendered extremely dangerous by the strength and diversified course of the currents.

The cliff that marks the immediate eastern boundary of Grève de Lecq swells to enormous bulk and height, forming a circular hill called *Catel de Lecq*, the base of which, on the land side, has the appearance of a rampart. The northern declivity of this tremendous cliff is, in several places, so precipitous as to assume a beetling form ; in others, it descends to the sea in huge masses of denuded rock.

Passing the hotel already noticed, and winding round the base of the lofty hill constituting the immediate eastern extremity of the cove, there is a narrow perforation of no great height, which extends in length about one hundred feet. This subterranean passage, which cannot be explored when the tide is up, is rendered difficult and unpleasant by the lumps of detached rock, which the sea,

by constant attrition, has rounded into monstrous pebbles, and forced into the aperture. Emerging from the tunnel into another creek, two high rocks, of pyramidal shape, rear themselves in front, and have a singular striking appearance. In the centre of that which is lowest down on the shore, the waves have burst through, and formed a high and narrow aperture like a Gothic arch.*

Few strangers come to Jersey without visiting the caves; those of *Grève de Lecq*, *Plemont*, and *Le Moye*, are the principal. The course of our tour now brings us to the former: it lies under a hill that shelves rapidly in the western side of the bay, until it terminates abruptly in a precipice. Approach to it along the shore is prevented by a ledge of broken rocks; but by following the sinuosities of a narrow track, that runs along the hill by the very edge of the precipice, a rough path, or rather a flight of irregular steps, descends to the spot. This chasm is filled with water as the tide rises, but becomes dry at half ebb. The mouth is an irregular opening, nearly twenty feet in height, but much narrower in width. The cavern rises from the entrance to a considerable degree, and penetrates horizontally to the depth of fifty or sixty feet. When the sun's rays gleam into this obscure excavation, and glitter on the sandy floor, the dark tints of the rugged sides and roof become softened by the reflected light. Looking outwards from the extreme depth, when the cavern is thus half illumined, it instantly conveys the idea of a church with a lofty vaulted roof. Masses of rock project indeed on each side, but they do not injure the perspective. The best time for viewing this sublime object, is when the tide is so high that it may be entered in a boat.

* Dr. Mac Culloch, in the Geological Transactions, has given a view of these two rocks; he mentions only one being of a pyramidal shape; but his drawing exhibits their eastern front: on the western side, which is opposite to the mouth of the perforated tunnel, both have partly the same triangular form.

From Grève de Lecq the road ascends, along a well-shaded path: it then becomes level, and passes between two ancient mansions, *Vinchelez de haut*, and *Vinchelez de bas*, which stand opposite to each other. A tortuous path now leads to Plemont, a high rugged cape, jutting further into the sea than the other headlands on the northern coast, and like them characterized by acute ledges of sienite.

The promontory of *Plemont* is so deeply intersected on each side, as to be joined to the main land by a very narrow isthmus: this has been cut down to a considerable depth, so that it is, though improperly, termed an Island. Over the deep fosse is a bridge of earth, and close to it is a guard-house. This place has long been celebrated for its caves; they are chiefly on the western side of a small inlet, of which the eastern point is formed by the promontory of Plemont. The descent to those caverns on this side is steep: and is seldom used, as it is dangerous. The path on the left is the least difficult: after passing through a gate into an enclosure, it winds round the head of a gorge, and conducts along its sides to the rocks that rise above the bay: the descent of these rocks is not dangerous with a moderate degree of caution.

The cave at Plemont which is most noted, is four hundred feet deep, though those who deal in the marvellous would give it, and many others, a much greater depth. A small stream of water, which has been dignified with the appellation of a cascade, falls over the cliff: when the waves rush into these caves, they produce a noise equal to the loudest thunder. Not far from Plemont is another promontory, which from its bluff form has acquired the name of *Grosnez*. In the way to it is a small cove, that possesses a fine sandy beach; but to this inlet it is very difficult, if not dangerous, to descend.

Grosnez constitutes the north-western boundary of

Jersey, and like other parts of the northern line, the coast, notwithstanding its bluff appearance, is bristled with angular points. No other way leads down the cliffs in this quarter, than the paths made by the feet of a few straggling sheep, which here and there crop the scanty herbage.

At the extremity of the promontory are the ruins of Grosnez castle. A small gateway, and two projecting angles, constitute the remains of a portal,—all that now exists of this once noted castle.

Advancing southward, a most singular colossal rock will be seen rising suddenly from the sea. It is an irregular pillar, more than a hundred feet in height, and tapering but little from its broad craggy basis. This natural tower is very appositely named *La Pinacle*.

On quitting Grosnez, the rocky cliffs begin to decline in height; and this progressive reduction gives to Jersey that form of an inclined plane, which has already been noticed. The last of the rugged eminences in this district is called *L'Etac*: it is a large irregular mass, jutting out from the shore, and becoming, from its position, the northern boundary of St. Ouen's bay. This inlet sweeps from *L'Etac* to the southward of *La Rocco*, a tower erected on a rock, about half a mile below high-water mark, though dry as the tide recedes. It is, however, at times nearly inaccessible for several weeks, from the violent surf that breaks over the rough surface of the low rocks that stud the whole extent of this dangerous coast.

Continuing to follow the sea line, on leaving *La Rocco*, a part of *Les Quenvais* that borders on the shore, will next be travelled. That devoted part of the Island is nearly a mile in breadth, and stretches inland, towards the south, about two miles. Proceeding still, in the same southerly direction, there is a point of land, close to the extremity of which is that rugged mass of lofty rocks, called *La Corbiere*,

which present such a formidable appearance in the approach to the Island.

The direction is now to the eastward, and along a portion of the southern coast. This corner of Jersey is, like that in the N. W., a kind of peninsula, with a broad isthmus : both in form and situation, they appear to resemble two natural redoubts, flanking three sides of the Island.

Winding with the coast, from the eastern point, is seen a small inlet, called *Portelet* : in this cove rises a rock, on which is erected a low circular fort. Rounding this curve, *Noirmont* point is seen, the extremity of which drops sharply from a considerable height, and terminates in a low rock, on which has been erected a martello tower, which guards the western entrance of St. Aubin's bay, and commands a range of coast towards St. Brelade's bay.

We now approach the town of St. Aubin ; the way is along a new and very pleasant road, which, about half-way up the cliffs, winds from Portelet along the sinuosities of the shore. From the height above the little town of St. Aubin, the tourist will enjoy one of the finest views in the Island, embracing the beautiful bay with a distant view of St. Helier, and all the intervening objects.

A short ride will now conduct the tourist to St. Helier : the road over the sand when the tide permits is very pleasant ; but the inland road is most usually taken.

CHAPTER XII.

TOUR THROUGH THE ISLAND.

Eastern Tour—*St. Clement, Grouville, St. Martin, St. Saviour.*

Centre Tour—*Trinity, St. John, St. Mary, St. Lawrence.*

Western Tour—*St. Peter, St. Ouen, St. Brelade.*

HAVING conducted the visitor round the coast, and exhibited to him the peculiar and characteristic features of the Island, we propose to accompany him in a tour through the parishes. It must be admitted that there is nothing very particular to engage the attention of an English traveller; but whoever comes to Jersey to see it, should, if time permit, see every part. The inland tour is divided into three excursions, each of which may be performed in a morning's ride; but a stranger who is satisfied with a cursory view of the Island, may pass through it in two days: in this case he will of course consult the driver of the vehicle he may hire, as to the best plan of combining the excursions that will be recommended.*

On leaving the town of St. Helier, there are two roads which take to Grouville; one, which may be called the

* During the summer months, a four-horse coach occasionally makes the tour of the Island in one day; this, of course, presents a mere bird's eye view of its peculiar features, and allows no time either for examination or inquiry.

upper road, and which conducts directly to the church ; and the other, the lower road, which passes through the parish of St. Clement, and is not far from the shore. In the present tour, it is supposed that the stranger is desirous of visiting the whole Island,—of passing through all the parishes : he will, therefore, be conducted on the road to St. Clement.

On leaving the town, the tourist will pass the house and grounds of *Plaisance*, and will descend to the small village of *Le Dicq* : on leaving this village he will pass through the manor of *Saumarez* ; the mansion, which is a modern erection, stands on the left of the road, and somewhat more than a mile from the town. The land between this part of the road and the sea consists of low sandy hillocks, called *Les Mielles*, with occasional patches of verdure. The manor of *Saumarez* is the most extensive, and, indeed, the principal fief in the island : about a mile further, the tourist will reach St. Clement's church. Along a part of this road will be seen that large assemblage of rocks already noticed in the general description of the Island, with which this part of the coast is studded ; these are exhibited only when the tide is low ; at high water, the view is very different : these rocks are then entirely covered, and an immense sheet of water is presented to the eye, flowing nearly up to the side of the road.

In the MS. account of Jersey already quoted, there is the following general description of the churches :—"Next are the churches, which are in number twelve, the like whereof are not to be found in the same plot of ground in all Europe, cittyes excepted. Four of them have for steeples square towers, two very high and faire, and two others not soe : the rest have very high spires, whereof some serve for seamen, for markes to direct their course by ; that of St. Saviours is the fairest, and the clearest of all, and the best in repaire, but none of the rest want something (any-

thing) which may render it commendable, in comparison of many other churches to be frequently seen upon the roads of France and England." After this general description of the churches, it will not be necessary to detain the reader, by describing them separately; he will form his own opinion how far this account of them, given a hundred and fifty years ago, is correct at the present time: a few general remarks will suffice.

Near St. Clement's church on the shore, is the small village of *Pontaque*, which is a place of very general resort, both for the upper class of town inhabitants and for visitors, as there is here more accommodation for a temporary abode than in any other part of the Island, and some convenience for sea-bathing: during the season of *vraic* gathering, it presents a scene of unusual activity and amusement.

This account of *Pontaque* may seem somewhat exaggerated to a person who has been accustomed to even one of the smallest watering places in England, as there is no appearance of the usual accommodation for visitors in such places: the lodging-houses are scattered about in the lanes which are connected with the village.

The next inland point to which the tourist will be conducted is the village of *Grouville*, which he will enter near the church. It has already been observed that there is another and more direct road to this village, avoiding St. Clement, which, if he should be desirous of saving time, he would probably take: this passes through George town and *Longueville*, and conducts directly to the church. In the church-yard is a plain monument stone, inserted in the wall, which was erected by private subscription, to commemorate the names of seven soldiers, who fell in the attack of the French in 1781. There is, also, in the church-yard, an ancient tomb, with a tablet over it, resting against the wall of the church, which has a coat of arms of the *Dumaresq* family, date 1507, and near the same

spot is a handsome monument to the memory of Philip Nicolle, lieutenant-colonel in the British service, who died in 1833.

We now conduct the tourist to the village of Gourey and Mont Orgueil Castle. The view of the castle from this road is very striking, and presents an appearance, situated as it is on a very high elevation, which is well described by its name. After passing through the village of Gourey, the road conducts to its gates: the stranger will of course visit the interior of this once renowned castle, although there is not much at present to admire: it is fast going to decay, and when arrived at that state, will probably be more to be admired, than in its present state of partial ruin. The rooms are shown which were occupied by the noted puritan barrister Prynne, while a prisoner in the castle, and subsequently by Charles II.: these are in a tolerable state of repair, though little suited to the dignity of a prince. Under an arched gateway, near the entrance, are seen some stone benches, which were formerly seats of justice; and not far from these are the ends of beams, from which condemned prisoners were suspended. Should the visit to the castle be on a clear day, the tourist will be gratified by a fine view, from its summit, of the coast of France; and the cathedral of Coutance, at a distance of thirtymiles, may be distinctly seen by the naked eye. The near view comprehends the harbour which lies beneath the castle and the bay in which it stands. The south-eastern part of the Island is seen from the high towers of the castle as a bold projection into the sea, and Seymour tower, already noticed in the coast tour, presents a peculiar feature in this view, and is the extreme object in that direction. On the left is a small port called Anne Port, chiefly inhabited by fishermen: this, as well as the bold sweep of St. Catherine's Bay, is hidden by a projecting point of land, called Saut Geoffry. At a short distance out of this line

of road, and within a mile of the Castle, there stands in a field a Cromlech or Druid temple: these and other similar remains of antiquity are in Jersey called *Poquelayes*.*

We now proceed to the village of St. Martin, which is scarcely three miles from the castle: the road lies over a hill of considerable acclivity and length, and on either side is to be seen some of the most fertile land in the Island. The interior of the church has within a few years been modernized, and a new parsonage house built. The manor house of Rozel, which is in this parish, is a short mile from the church: it has been greatly improved by its present owner, and is well shaded by wood. A short distance from the Manor House of Rozel, is *Havre de Rozel*, the usual place of resort for pic-nics: a digression of this kind would be a pleasant interlude during the tour, should it be undertaken by a party. The remains of a Druid temple is also in this neighbourhood: it is the principal one that exists in the Island at the present time. It consists of twenty-one stones, placed in the form of an oval, with other stones in the centre.

On the right of the church is the road leading to Trinity; but having recommended, in this day's route, a return through St. Saviour's, the stranger will avoid the road to Trinity, and take the left of the one he has already travelled from St. Martin's; he will soon enter the parish of St. Saviour. In this part of the tour he will visit *La Hogue Bie*, or, as it has lately been called, Prince's Tower. It is an ancient building, and has furnished the subject of a legend, of which there are various versions, both in prose and in verse: these are, most of them, too ridiculous to deserve notice. The ascent is first by a flight of wooden steps to a kind of terrace, which, winding round the tower, conducts to the entrance; the summit is reached by a wind-

* A representation of this cromlech is given in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1784.

ing staircase in the interior. From the top of this building, the Island is seen to great advantage; the whole lies beneath the eye, and looks like a vast wood, owing to the great number of enclosures, and the hedge-rows being planted with trees: it also commands a great extent of the French coast. Being so near the town, it is the principal place of public resort. It is embellished with beautiful walks and pleasure grounds. At the entrance of the grounds is a large and commodious building, in which parties can be supplied with refreshments.

From Prince's tower, the road lies through the manor of *Grainville*, and will conduct to St. Saviour's church: this is the largest of the country churches, and its situation is very commanding. From the tower, and even from a field near the churchyard, is a fine view of the bay, Elizabeth castle, and the town of St. Helier. In St. Saviour's church is a monument to John Poingdextre, Esq., who died in 1691: he is justly celebrated in Jersey, as "one of the most learned and upright magistrates the Island has ever produced." In this parish, and somewhat more than a mile from the church, on the north, is the public school of St. Manlier, already noticed in the Ecclesiastical History of the Island.

In returning to the town from St. Saviour's, the tourist will pass by Government House on the right, the residence of the lieutenant-governor, and Saunders's very extensive nursery grounds, which are pleasantly situated, and are well stocked with flowers that will attract the notice of the botanist or florist. The suburbs may now be said to begin, as gentlemen's villas or cottages are to be seen on either side of the road, which now soon terminates in the town itself. The road in front leads to the upper part of the town, the road on the left conducts to the lower.

Central Tour.

The second tour will comprise the centre of the Island, and comprehend the four parishes of Trinity, St. John, St. Mary, and St. Lawrence.

The first will be to Trinity. On this tour we leave the town by the lower road, passing near the town mill. There is little to be noticed on this route, except one of the beautiful sea views which characterize the Island, with the bay of St. Aubin in the foreground. The first object to which it will be necessary to direct attention is the manor of Trinity, which belongs to the renowned family of Carteret. The house is not unlike those venerable mansions built in England during the reign of the Stuarts, and is approached through an avenue of trees; a table, a goblet and a pair of gloves, which belonged to Charles II., are preserved as relics of the monarch, who evinced so much attachment to the honoured predecessor of the present seigneur, as related in the General History. The grounds are extensive; they are ornamented with a sheet of water, and the gardens are well laid out. In Trinity Church is a handsome tomb enclosed by iron railings, and a mural monument to the memory of Sir Edward Carteret, Knt., usher of the black rod to Charles II.: he died 1682.

There is a direct road from Trinity to St. John's, which is the next object in the present tour.

The Quarries have already been alluded to in the Coast tour, or they may be visited now, as they are scarcely a mile from St. John's Church. The two most noted are *Mont Mado** and *La Perruque*. Half a mile from the church of St. John is the manor of *La Hogue Boëte*, belonging to the family of Le Couteur. In the church is a monument to John Le Couteur, Esq., who died in 1794.

In the parish of St. John is practised a ceremony, or

* See Mineralogy, page 97.

rather a pastime, called "*faire braire les poëles*:" it is observed on St. John's eve. A large brass boiler is encircled with rushes, and others attached to them; the boiler is partly filled with water: when the rushes are well moistened they are drawn quickly through the hand, and thus a loud discordant sound is produced, not a little heightened by the blowing of cows' horns: after having regaled themselves with noise, these merry-makers go forth and furnish themselves with milk for syllabubs, by milking all the cows that are abroad: robbing gardens and orchards is another part of this after-sport. These depredations prevailed to a great extent formerly, but are now in a great measure suppressed.

We now take the road to St. Mary, distant somewhat more than a mile and a half: on this lies the manor of *Des Prés*. On the right the scenery on this road is rich, and it is not deficient in wood. As there is nothing worthy of notice in the church, the tourist will take a road to the left, and direct his course to St. Lawrence; on this road is situated *Avranches*, a modern mansion belonging to the family of Marett. The church of St. Lawrence deserves particular notice; the eastern window has some remains of its ancient tracery, and of painted glass; and the modern part has been executed in better taste than in most of the other churches in the Island, in which sash windows have very generally supplied the place of the stone mullions and tracery that time had destroyed: in the church of St. Lawrence these have been replaced by diamond squares, which better associate with the other parts of the building. There are two mural monuments in the church to the Bisson family. After leaving the church of St. Lawrence, the road passes an estate called the Grove, and a short drive will conduct to the village of Millbrook. On the left is Millbrook House: turning to the left, a mile and a half will bring us to St. Helier.

Western Tour.

The third excursion will be through the western part of the Island, and comprise the parishes of St. Peter, St. Owen, and St. Brelade. The route at first lies along the shore: after having passed the village of Millbrook at a short distance, a road on the right conducts inland and through the much admired valley of St. Peter to the church; the drive up St. Peter's valley is considered the most beautiful in the Island. The tourist will not find much to detain him here: the church is like most of the others in the Island; it has, however, the credit of being kept in a better state of repair than many of them, and is the only church in the Island that does not contain some remains of its ancient tracery in the windows: but here not a vestige is to be seen: this is probably owing to its very elevated situation, and thus being more exposed to destruction by the weather. In the church is an elaborately carved monument to the memory of Elie de Carteret, date 1640.

On the road to St. Ouen's he will pass the manor house, which was once the residence of the Carteret family, but it has now passed into other hands: this has already been noticed in the history of the Island. St. Ouen's church stands in a retired part of the parish: it is a large building, consisting of a nave and two side aisles. That which may be considered the nave is very ancient, and was, probably, one of those many chapels which were in the Island before it was divided into parishes: the two aisles are more modern, and were probably added to the original structure in the twelfth century, when the church is supposed to have been built. There is in the church a very large pew, with a coat of arms curiously carved in oak: it is, probably, coeval with the last addition to the building.

After passing St. Ouen's church, he will continue his route to *Vinchelez de haut* and *Vinchelez de bas*, which

two residences are separated by the road to Plemont. The former is a very ancient building, and will remind the tourist of feudal times—a large court-yard, surrounded by high walls, and a machicolated gateway with its turret and bell: the arms of De Carteret are placed over the portal. The latter has lately been erected by Captain Carteret, the lord of the manor. If the stranger has not made the tour of the coast, he will probably proceed to the N.W. corner of the Island, to which the road alluded to conducts, visit the caves at Plemont, and view Grosnez Castle, celebrated in history, but now in ruins. From this point he must return to the church: from hence he will probably diverge to the barracks, and from whence a road leads directly across the *Quenvais* to St. Brelade.

The church of St. Brelade is the most ancient in the Island*, and seems to have undergone no alteration since it was built, which was in the year 1111. In the church-yard remains one of those ancient chapels already noticed, and is, probably, five or six hundred years more ancient than the church. On the walls of the chapel are still to be seen some figures, painted, and probably coeval with the building. In one part can be distinguished an angel addressing a female: this is doubtless meant to represent the Annunciation. In another part is the Saviour bearing his cross; the head is surrounded by a glory; there is also to be seen a number of small figures, with a larger figure in a commanding attitude: this can be no other than a representation of the general resurrection. These are now so

* Jersey was formerly, according to tradition, the land of fairies, and they seem to have been very officious at the time St. Brelade's church was built. It was proposed to build it on the eastern side of the bay, but as fast as the materials were collected, they were carried to the opposite side, where the church now stands; this was supposed to be miraculous, to point out the proper site. It is, however, more than probable that it was a contrivance of the priest, who preferred the western side of the bay. It must be confessed that either he or the fairies showed great taste in the selection of the spot.

much defaced that very little can be traced out, except when the strong light of the sun shines into the building. In the church-yard are several neat monuments to the Le Couteur and Pipon families ; and one to the memory of an ancestor of the Rev. Dr. Valpy, executed in good style by Shout. Near the church is the Manor House of *La Moye*. From this point, the road skirting the head of the bay leads to St. Aubin.

The situation of the little town of St. Aubin is singularly beautiful, and the view from the most elevated parts very extensive. It was formerly a place of more importance than it is at present : the principal trade of the Island was formerly carried on here, which is now removed to St. Helier ; it has, however, a portion of the island trade. The harbour and military defences stand opposite to the town. On its southern side is a promenade, the view from which combines the beauty of that already described, with well wooded heights that rise above, and the rugged line of coast that stretches to Noirmont point.

The town of St. Aubin consists principally of one street : it is in the parish of St. Brelade, and consequently at a considerable distance from the church : there is, however, a chapel of ease for the accommodation of the inhabitants.

Near the town is a fort, built on a rock, which stands well as a protection to the harbour : though dry at low water, it is insulated as the tide rises. The harbour is more than sufficiently capacious for the trade that is brought to it, which is principally for the supply of the town itself, or for the parishes in the western part of the Island : it is dry at low water, though at a high spring tide it has a depth of thirty feet.

A drive across the sands, or by the road already noticed, will conduct to St. Helier.

Having thus accommodated the Tours to the time that the visitor can remain on the Island, he will make his arrangements accordingly. If he can devote but one or two days, he will of course employ them in seeing the Town, its public buildings, Elizabeth Castle, and the Citadel, with probably an afternoon jaunt to Prince's Tower; if he can spare four days, we would, in addition to the town, recommend the Coast tour: in this will be seen the peculiarities of the Island—its bold promontories, its beautiful bays, its extensive sea-views, and its noted caves. If he can allow a week, the whole may be visited, including all the parishes; and on the sabbath, the Island may be seen in her religious garb.

Cars, gigs, coaches, and landaus may be had in St. Helier, by the hour or by the day, at very moderate charges.

Omnibuses run from St. Helier to St. Aubin every hour in the day; they stop opposite the Market. From Helier to Gouray five times a day, and twice during the day they go round by St. Martin's.

THE END.

A GUIDE

TO THE

ISLAND OF JERSEY;

DESCRIBING ITS

HISTORY, GOVERNMENT, COMMERCE, PRODUCTIONS,
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, INHABITANTS, &c.

WITH A

Tour round the Coast,

AND

THROUGH THE PARISHES.

LONDON:

T. BAKER, NEW NORTH STREET,
AND SIMPKIN, MARSHALL & CO., STATIONERS' COURT.

1842.

[This Guide is done up separately from a larger work, on the Channel Islands generally, for the use of those who may visit Jersey only. The entire work contains an account of the Island of Guernsey, with its dependencies, Alderney, Serk, Herm, and Jethou, and may be had of the same publishers. Price 5s. neatly bound in cloth, and lettered.]

THE ISLAND OF GUERNSEY.

CHAPTER XIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ISLAND.

It will not be necessary, in the present account of the Island of Guernsey, to say any thing of its history. This has already been treated of in the introductory chapter to this work. The general and ecclesiastical history of the Islands in the Channel is so blended, that it would not be easy to separate it : the events which relate to the one were, in almost every instance, so connected with the other, as to form but one history, and as such it has been given in the first chapter, to which the reader is referred.

The same remark will in some measure apply to other circumstances which relate to the two Islands of Jersey and Guernsey. Their constitution, their civil and military government, their laws, the manners and customs of the inhabitants, are all derived from the same source ; and although time and circumstances have certainly induced some changes, and caused some difference between them, still the difference is not so great as to require that both Islands should, in every particular, be described separately—this would cause unnecessary repetition. It is therefore intended, in the present account of Guernsey, to consider the subjects enumerated, the same as they have

been already described in the sister Island, and where a difference obtains, to point out in what it consists.

Guernsey is distant from Jersey about sixteen miles reckoning from the nearest point to each other of the respective Islands ; or, reckoning from their respective harbours, twenty-eight miles ; from St. Malo sixty miles , from Alderney twenty-one miles ; from Weymouth seventy-five miles ; and from Southampton somewhat less than one hundred and twenty miles.

The Island of Guernsey is of a triangular shape : its extreme length is about nine miles, and its greatest breadth nearly six ; its circumference is thirty miles, but, including the sinuosities of the bays, nearly forty miles. The inclination of the land is the reverse to that of Jersey : it is elevated on the south, and shelves to the north ; the southern coast is bounded by high cliffs, which also extend along part of the eastern coast, and approach near to the town : the remainder of the eastern and northern sides consists of a series of flat-bays, divided by interposed ridges of high rock.

The Island is divided into ten parishes : these, with Alderney and Serk, constitute the deanery of Guernsey, in the diocese of Winchester.

The approach to Guernsey is full of danger, from the number of the rocks that surround it, and the rapidity of the tides : indeed, scarcely less so than her sister island of Jersey, while the northern and eastern parts, which are first skirted in a voyage from England, are even more beset with rocks and islands, extending further seaward, especially from the northern side of the Island of Herm, which lies opposite to Guernsey.

The principal object of attraction on approaching the town from the sea is the Castle, built on a rock, about half a mile distant from it : it is named Castle Cornet. This will be noticed hereafter, with other objects connected with

the town. The town, St. Peter's Port, has a most magnificent appearance from on ship-board: it is situated on the slope of a hill, and houses are seen towering above another even to its summit; but whatever noble impression may have been made on the visitor by its general appearance, is lost on viewing it in detail. The streets are narrow, and the steep acclivity, except in line with the sea, by no means agreeable. The town has however been improved of late, the houses modernized, and the shops vie with those in a country town in England. The improvement alluded to is principally in Fountain Street, which is at the back of the markets, and in Smith Street: a still more recent improvement, formed by a very convenient opening leading to the markets, is called the Commercial Arcade. There is every accommodation that a stranger can require, either in inns, hotels, boarding or lodging houses*; and the shops furnish an ample supply of every thing.

However disappointed the stranger may feel on a first view of the town, he will be most agreeably surprised when he has passed through it, and reached the environs, where he will see either mansions or "snug boxes," always approached by a parterre, kept in most perfect order, and seldom equalled in England. From the environs above the town, he will be delighted with the most extensive sea-views. We shall however reserve a description of these for the Tour of the Island.

St. Peter's Port is the only town on the Island; it is situated on the eastern side, and in about the centre of a wide bay, somewhat in the form of a flattened crescent, the two horns of which are a point of land near Vale Castle on the north, and St. Martin's point on the south: this immense arc contains within its sweep several projections

* For a list of these, see Appendix.

of land which form smaller bays, and it is protected by the Islands of Serk, Herm, and Jethou, which break the violence of the waves from the eastward, and increase the security of the roadstead.

The lower part of the town is the most ancient, and the least inviting ; but it is the principal part for business : all the mercantile establishments, hotels, markets, and other public buildings, are either close to the harbour, or at no great distance from it : as the hill is ascended, there is less appearance of trade, and the stranger will soon find himself in the outskirts, and be well rewarded for the labour of climbing the hill. From this eminence he will have a most extensive prospect, with a portion of the Island in the fore-ground, Serk in the distance, and Herm and Jethou as intervening objects, to break the continuity of the sea-view ; this prospect is peculiarly attractive from the " New ground," which is laid out for a promenade.

The cottages in the environs extend to a considerable distance, or rather they are residences, which, being remote from the town, assimilate more to gentlemen's seats of a second order in England, with less of land, of course, attached to them. The island scenery is not so beautiful as that of Jersey, nor is the country so well wooded. There is about the country, not exactly an appearance of sterility, but certainly there is an absence of what is required to charm an admirer of rural scenery. Time will, however, improve the Island in this respect : wherever mansions have been erected, trees have been planted ; and as these are numerous in different parts of the Island, its character will, in a measure, be changed when the trees shall have attained their full growth. It should, however, be observed, that the northern and western parts are least inviting, the centre and southern are more to be admired.

On the northern side of the Island a large tract of land

was a few years since reclaimed from the sea by an embankment: by these means, between two and three hundred acres of land have been brought into cultivation.

The roads in Guernsey have also been much improved, as well as in the sister Island; but the plan met at first with as much opposition as there. It is reported that a farmer, who was doubtless a strong opponent to the measure, allowed his absurd prejudices so far to prevail as to enjoin, on his death-bed, that his remains should not be carried over any part of the new road.

The roadstead is considered the best in the bay from Cape la Hogue to Brehat, it being sheltered while the wind blows from twenty-eight points of the compass, and at all times easy of access, from whatever point it may blow.

After this general survey of the Island, the reader will expect to be introduced to the buildings in the Town.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE TOWN OF ST. PETER'S PORT—FISH MARKET—HOSPITAL—JAIL
—ELIZABETH COLLEGE—COURT HOUSE—CASTLE CARY,—L'HY-
VREUSE—FORT GEORGE—CASTLE CORNET—PAROCHIAL CHURCH—
CHAPELS OF EASE—ST. JAMES'S AND AMBALLE NEW CHURCH.

THERE are two subjects which are the boast of a Guernseyman—his Flower-garden and his Fish-market. The Guernsey lily is well known in England, and in some measure testifies to the excellences of the former; the Fish-market must be seen to be estimated. Viewed as a building, and considering the purpose for which it is appropriated, it may fairly be assumed that there is not such another in the British dominions. It is light and airy, and every way adapted to its object: it measures 200 feet in length, and is very lofty, though not wide: all the slabs on which the fish are exposed are of polished marble, and the market is so well supplied with water in every part that it is constantly cleansed, and thus free from those offensive effluvia that too commonly prevail in markets for fish.

The other markets join to that already described: they are convenient and airy, two very great recommendations, but are not otherwise remarkable, except that they are well arranged, clean, and well ventilated.

The markets are not only convenient in their situation and construction, but are well supplied; the supply in the Fish-market is most abundant, and fish is in general very cheap: to notice the amazing quantity exposed for sale in

the morning, and to observe the denuded slabs in the after part of the day, would lead a stranger, desirous of giving the Islanders a characteristic name, to say they are a fish-eating people.

The visitor will expect some information on the prices of articles of consumption: the chief difference in the reduction of price, it will be observed, is on those which are subject to the customs duty in England; but in estimating the comparative difference between the two sides of the water, it should be understood that a pound weight in Jersey and Guernsey is somewhat less than 18 English ounces: and it should further be borne in mind, that an English shilling passes for thirteen-pence in all the Channel Islands, and a sovereign for twenty-one shillings and eight-pence.

Beef and mutton, from 7*d.* to 8*d.* per lb.

Bread, 1½*d.* to 2*d.*

Cheese, 6*d.* to 7*d.*

Butter, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb.

Tea, 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb., and upwards.

Coffee, 10*d.* to 15*d.* per lb.

Good loaf sugar, 5½*d.*

Moist sugar, 3*d.* to 4*d.*

Rice, 4*d.* to 5*d.*

Port wine, 20*s.* to 30*s.* per doz.

Sherry do., 10*s.* to 30*s.*

Best French brandy, 6*s.* to 8*s.* per gal.

Common do., 3*s.* 4*d.*

Rum, 4*s.* to 5*s.*

Hollands, 3*s.* 6*d.*

A considerable quantity of fruit is occasionally brought from France, and the price is low, but it is far from being good: the Guernsey fruit and vegetables are abundant

and very excellent. Strawberries are sold by weight, and are generally sold from 2*d.* to 3*d.* per lb., according to the quality, in the season, and other fruits at proportionate prices.

The TOWN HOSPITAL will next claim our attention. This in England would be called a Poor-house, as distinguished from a Hospital: it has not only the advantages that both these offer, but many others. It is a hospital for the sick, a poor-house for the indigent, a house of refuge for the destitute, and a place of instruction for the young and ignorant: within its walls is also to be found accommodation for those who are afflicted with mental malady. This building is in Hirzel Street: it was erected in the year 1742, and the same cause gave rise to its establishment as led to the present poor-law system in England—the abuse of out-door relief. Thus Guernsey preceded, if she did not lead the way, in the mighty change that has taken place in England in the management of its poor. Great additions have since been made to the building. Every department within its walls is conducted with great regularity, and with due decorum and cleanliness: the whole establishment reflects the highest credit on the liberality, not without a proper regard to economy, of the inhabitants. The inmates are kept in a moderate degree of labour in useful occupations, which not only supplies a portion of the expense, but preserves from the evils of idleness.

Not far from the Hospital is the common JAIL, both for debtors and criminals: this is a modern erection; it was built in the year 1811. It appears to be of greater extent than it really is, as it presents a large frontage to the road; but to the credit of the Island, it does not provide for so much delinquency as the appearance would lead us to suppose, being of inconsiderable depth. The arrangement of the building is however good: it consists of two galleries;

the lower is tenanted by the debtors ; in the upper the criminals are confined : in the basement story are cells, which are generally used as lock-up-houses in cases of temporary detention.

The liberal feeling which induced the Islanders to provide so much comfort in the hospital, has been extended to the jail : the debtors are provided with certain articles of bedding at the expense of the creditor, when unable to provide themselves, and no proper indulgence is denied, with which the benevolence of friends may furnish them ; they have also the range of a large court-yard from eight in the morning till sun-set during the whole year. The space allowed for exercise to the felons is confined to the gallery in front of their cells, and the time for exercise is limited to four hours in the middle of the day, although seldom strictly enforced.

There is a peculiarity in the law of Guernsey, and in the regulations of the jail, that does not prevail in England ; the creditor is obliged to maintain the debtor whom he has incarcerated : the amount is fixed by the Court, according to the price of provisions : during the war it was one shilling per diem, since the peace it has been reduced to ninepence. This amount is to be paid to the governor of the jail, and in default of payment the debtor is liberated. Both debtors and criminals are allowed to receive visitors during certain hours of the day.

All the islands in the Channel sustain a character for morality, and the opinion is certainly borne out by the small number of committals for trial, which scarcely amount to a hundred annually in Guernsey on an average of years ; and it is still further in their favour that the far greater proportion of those committed are not natives.

In this neighbourhood stands the COURT HOUSE : this also is a modern building ; it was erected in 1799, at an expense of between nine and ten thousand pounds. On

the right of the entrance is the Greffe Office, for registering all contracts and proceedings of the States and Royal Court; on the left is the Lower Court, in which contracts are examined and passed, previously to their being registered. In this court police cases, and other judicial business is heard: on this floor is also a room for the convenience of suitors to consult with their friends or advocates.

The ascent to the Upper, or superior Court, is by a handsome circular flight of steps: it is a spacious room, and not devoid of appropriate embellishments, with every accommodation for the Bailiff or Judge, Jurats, and other officers of the court, with the advocates and their attendants. This court contains four portraits of distinguished characters: D. De Lisle Brock, Esq., painted at the expense of the States, as an acknowledgment of the many eminent services rendered to the Island; the late Admiral Lord de Saumarez, a native of Guernsey, but a name well known and appreciated in England; Sir J. Doyle, K.C.B., who was Lieutenant-governor from 1803 to 1817, and to whom the Island is indebted for its many improvements; and Sir J. Colborne, the late Lieutenant-governor, and, since he left the governorship of the Island, the energetic Commander in Chief in Canada. In this court is also held the Assembly of the States.

On this floor is a private room for the Bailiff and Jurats, when they wish to retire for consultation; and a spacious apartment for the States Committees and private examinations: there are also attached to this building coach-houses and stabling, which the characteristic prudence and economy of Guernseymen have provided for the carriages and horses of Jurats who reside in the country.

At a short distance from the Court House, and on somewhat higher ground, is ELIZABETH COLLEGE, which, in an island that cannot boast of any one building of sin-

gular architectural beauty, may, on a comparison, be said to be a handsome structure ; the style is somewhat of an imitation of the Gothic, with the anomalous mixture, at the angles, of what is intended to represent a castellated tower.

For a very long period previously to 1824, great abuses had crept into this establishment, and it became almost useless as a place of instruction for the Islanders : at one period there was not a single scholar on the foundation, notwithstanding its ample funds ; but in that year Sir J. Colborne, who was then Governor of the Island, undertook the task of reforming the establishment, since which time the system has been greatly improved. A college education is now to be found within its walls : besides the classics, divinity, history, many of the modern languages, the mathematics, as well as the inferior branches of education are taught, and more than common attention is paid to English literature. The college-fee is £12 per annum for those on the foundation, but which does not include what may be called the ornamental part of education, drawing, music, &c. Civil and military architecture is not altogether disregarded ; but sufficient instruction is given in this branch of science to prepare a pupil for his introduction to a surveyor's office in England, or to one of the naval or military colleges there.

At the upper end of Smith Street is the GOVERNMENT HOUSE, the residence of the Lieutenant-governor. It stands in a commanding situation, but there is nothing in the house itself that requires particular notice. It was originally private property, but purchased by Government in 1796, when a considerable sum was laid out on it to make it a suitable habitation for his Excellency.

CASTLE CARY, so named from the proprietor, John Cary, Esq., which is not far from the college, must not be left unnoticed. It is one of the most handsome private buildings in the Island, and contains a fine collection of pictures,

which, we are informed, Mr. Cary is willing to show to any stranger, who has some kind of introduction. Castle Cary is a striking object in approaching the Island, and would lead one to suppose, from its appearance, that its domains comprised one half of it.

At a short distance from this is L'HUYREUSE, or the New Ground already noticed. It is divided into three parts : the one is an avenue formed by trees on either side, and affording a pleasant and shady walk ; the other a large open space for a promenade, so extensive, that the militia of the Island occasionally meet here for inspection and military exercises ; the third a raised terrace. The view from this eminence is very fine ; it commands the whole of the northern part of the Island, and the various objects in the parishes of St. Sampson and the Vale : Serk, Herm, and Jethou are seen on the north and north-east ; while the eye, stretching further to the right, takes in Fort George : Alderney, the Casket Rocks, and the coast of France are distinctly seen in clear weather.

FORT GEORGE, a newly erected citadel, is about three quarters of a mile from the town ; it stands on very high ground, rendered strong by the natural defences of the Island. This fort is well worth a visit, and may be seen by application to the commanding officer on duty. From the ramparts all the neighbouring islands, Cape La Hogue, and a portion of the French coast may be seen with the naked eye.

The fortress that stands immediately opposite the town is CASTLE CORNET. It is not, like Elizabeth Castle in Jersey, left dry as the tide recedes, but is constantly surrounded by water, except occasionally, and when influenced by peculiar circumstances, at the very lowest of spring-tides. The time of its erection is not known, but forming an opinion from the style of the architecture, it may be fixed at within a century from the Norman conquest.

Additions have subsequently been made to it, and principally during the reigns of Mary, Elizabeth, and Charles I. The Castle mounts between fifty and sixty pieces of ordnance, some of large calibre. It contains extensive stores and a bakehouse, with a good supply of excellent water. It has furnaces for heating red-hot shot connected with most of the batteries : some of the apartments are bomb-proof. The fortress is allowed to be visited, but an order must be obtained from the governor for the purpose.

The HARBOUR was built in 1580 : a plan was formed during the reign of Edward I. to erect one, and that monarch allowed a duty on all ships and boats coming to the Island to defray the expense : the money was collected, but no harbour built till the reign of Elizabeth, when, by an Order in Council, the money collected was ordered to be expended on the object, and an additional rate levied on the inhabitants. The north pier was built in the reign of Queen Anne, since which time no addition has been made to it. These piers furnish a pleasant promenade ; for which purpose they are mostly used by mercantile men, and are to them a kind of Exchange. The space between the two piers, which is the water-gate for the entrance of vessels, is eighty feet, and the water rises at spring-tides to near thirty feet, but at neap tides to scarcely more than fourteen feet. On the south pier-head is a round building, on which is fixed a strong gas-light, at an elevation of thirty feet from the ground : this serves as a sea-mark by day, and as a light-house by night.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH for St. Peter's Port stands on the south side of the town, near the entrance to Fountain street. It is built in the Gothic style of architecture, but with no pretensions to the beauty of that style : the pillars in the interior are very heavy, and ill associate with the modern alterations the building has undergone. These improvements consist of new galleries, pulpit and reading

desk, new pews and organ; a clock has also been placed on the tower, with a dial plate on the four sides. The church has several monuments, but none that require particular notice.

The tourist who is in search of antiquities, will not fail to notice the high preservation of the windows, which are protected from the destructive power of the weather by the surrounding buildings: these are as originally constructed, and seem not to have undergone any alteration or repair.

There are also two other churches connected with the Establishment as chapels of ease, although not strictly in the same sense as the term is used in England: these are Trinity Chapel and Bethel Chapel.

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, or rather proprietary chapel, stands near the college. It is generally mentioned with great praise as a building. We have no wish to detract from its merits; but it is too much like many of the modern churches in London, distinguishable from a theatre only by the tower with which it is surmounted: this style of building for churches is, if we may coin a word, very unecclesiastical.

A smaller church has lately been built at Amballe, in the immediate vicinity of the town. It is a plain and solid structure: it affects no ornament, but it has all that is needed to support its character as an ecclesiastical building: we do not even regret the want of tracery in the windows, because this deficiency associates well with the plainness that generally pervades the building.

The Independents, Baptists, Wesleyans, Quakers, and Roman Catholics, have all their respective places for worship in the town: these will not require to be noticed as buildings, but a list of them, with the time of performing their services, will be found in the Appendix.

CHAPTER XV.

INHABITANTS—POPULATION—COMMERCE — BANKING—SHIPPING—
MANUFACTURES—AGRICULTURE, &c.

THE remark that has already been made, in reference to the history, government, and laws of the respective Islands, will also, in great measure, apply to the Natives. The visitor who comes to Guernsey for a short time, to take a cursory view of the Island and its inhabitants, will scarcely expect to have pointed out the minute distinctions of character that subsist between a Guernseyman and an inhabitant of the sister-island : the description that is given of one will generally suit the other, with certainly some slight shades of difference. They are both a thrifty people—a money-getting—and when obtained, a money-loving people. This feature in their character is occasioned by circumstances applicable to both : they are generally small landholders, or possessors of rents—sufficient for comfort, but not enough to induce a liberal expenditure : and those Guernseymen who have acquired property, are mostly governed by their early propensities ; but they are otherwise considered more English in their habits and manners than Jerseymen.

The occupations of the respective Islanders are also very similar. More men employ themselves in fishing in Guernsey than in Jersey ; which partly accounts for the better supply of fish, which is to be found in the Guernsey market ; and it is more common for a Guernseyman to unite

other trades to that of an agriculturist, as that of a carpenter or a mason. Besides these trifling distinctions, there is not any material difference to be found between the lower classes of the two Islands.

With respect to the middle and upper classes, a greater difference is perceived, than is generally found between persons who live by trade and those who live independent of it : there is an assumption of rank in a Guernseyman not in trade, which ill accords with his origin ; and when we read of the "Aristocracy" of Guernsey, it raises an idea in the mind vastly ludicrous : to presume to aristocratic rank, or indeed to any rank within the strict meaning of the term, is perfectly ridiculous. We should be disposed to believe that the natives themselves are too wise and too sober-minded to assume a rank and a station in the social system which their panegyrist would give them, if the length to which "exclusiveness" is carried in Guernsey, did not throw a doubt on this favourable assumption ; and the stateliness that is observed in large parties, which, as one observes, reminds of "playing at kings and queens," somewhat strengthens the doubt. The concurrent circumstances, and all acted on an Island so small as Guernsey, will naturally raise a smile in an Englishman who is conversant with the state of society in his own country.

There is certainly a larger portion of the inhabitants living independent in Guernsey than in Jersey, although their wealth has, in most instances, been acquired in trade, and generally at no very distant period of time. These would naturally associate together—their manners and habits of life would improve, as they live apart from the perplexities of trade—they have more leisure for the cultivation of their minds, and are more likely to receive adventurous visitors of a grade in society above themselves : these things would improve their character, and form a distinction, and very properly so—they would be the "upper classes"

of the Islanders ; this is their proper station, and the highest term that should be employed.

Island politics certainly do not engage so much attention in Guernsey as in Jersey, and party spirit is less rife. It may be somewhat difficult to account for this : it cannot be occasioned by the higher rank the upper classes assume, as if zeal in politics belonged only to the lower ; for in England the aristocracy, and those whose rank approaches the nearest to it, are those who most concern themselves in the politics of the land. Probably it is a quality that is indigenous, and if it be a quality that associates itself with an harmonious feeling towards each other, and an absence of a spirit of litigation, which it is to be feared too much prevails in Jersey, it is to be admired, and very right to be cultivated.

No return of the population of the Channel Islands was at first made to Parliament. At the three latter periods, the returns for Guernsey were as follows :—

In 1821, the population was	.	20,827
1831,	. . .	26,128
1841,	. . .	28,538

This includes the return for the Islands of Alderney, Serk, Herm, and Jethou : deducting the population of these, which is somewhat more than 1850, will leave for Guernsey alone 26,666 in the census of 1841. Thus it will be seen the population, comparing the two Islands of Jersey and Guernsey, is about as five to three in favour of the former. (*See Jersey Returns, page 59.*) Taking the Islands generally, they have increased in a larger proportion than any other part of the British dominions in Europe ; for, while from 1831 to 1841, England and Wales have increased in the proportion of about 14 per cent, and Scotland only 10 per cent, the Channel Islands have increased 19 per cent.

The TRADE of Guernsey has undergone a material change since the peace; it has considerably diminished, whereas that of the sister island has increased to a very large degree. Both Islands added to their wealth during the war, but at the present time, in their separate state and condition, they may be compared to two merchants, who, to use a common phrase, had "made their fortunes," but the one continues his trade to add to his riches, and the other retires from his more extensive speculations, but still carries on a limited and more safe kind of traffic, dividing his time between commercial engagements, which his former habits make him unwilling altogether to forego, and those domestic and social pleasures, which his acquired riches enable him to enjoy. This view of the different relations in life that the two Islands occupy, is borne out by the fact, that a larger quantity of wine is consumed in Guernsey than in Jersey, while the importation of brandy and other spirits is considerably less.

The trade of Guernsey was never of so general a character as that of Jersey: the riches it has acquired were principally derived from three sources; an illicit traffic, better known by the common term Smuggling, together with Warehousing, and, during, the war, Privateering. It is generally admitted, even by the Islanders themselves, that smuggling was carried on to a considerable extent in the Island, but they excuse themselves from the culpability that attaches to it, by denying that it was conducted by natives, but by English and other speculators, who were responsible for all that was evil: they usually sold the article as merchants, as they state, and knew nothing more of the transaction after they had disposed of it, "and then, so far as Guernseymen were concerned, the transaction ended." It will be right to give the Islanders the benefit of this excuse to a certain extent, and to some individuals completely so. The authorities strongly repudiated the charge

in a remonstrance to government, presented by the Royal Court, when the Custom-house restrictions were under consideration ; they observe—"as to smuggling, we should think ourselves unworthy of our station as magistrates, to countenance or encourage it any manner whatever."

It is, however, certain that smuggling was carried on to a very great extent from both Islands, but especially from Guernsey, which caused representations to be made to the English government on the subject, showing how much the revenue and fair trade suffered. This led to the establishment of a custom-house in the Islands, with a view to check the illicit traffic.

Another lucrative trade which was carried on by the Guernseymen, was Warehousing ; the great number of excellent and very capacious vaults and cellars which the Island possesses, gave great facilities for this, and its genial climate was well adapted to the ripening of wines : thus wines and spirits were stored in Guernsey until they were required in England, when they were sent over, and passed regularly through the Custom-house. It was of great advantage to these articles that they should have the benefit of age and mellowing, without having to pay the duty until they were actually sold : but when the bonding system took place, and English merchants were allowed to deposit their goods in stores under the control of government, without having to pay the duty until they were taken into their own possession—which gave them the same advantages as if their goods were stored in Guernsey, at the same time they were more immediately subject to their inspection—the plan was generally adopted, and the Guernsey stores were no longer used by the English merchants. This caused a great defalcation in the profits of the Island.

From a very early period Jersey and Guernsey possessed the privilege of being considered neutral in time of war,

and, although the Islands belonged to the crown of England, French vessels, even while we were at war with France, were protected in their harbours, and even at a distance at sea, "as far as the eye can reach:" this was, doubtless, of great advantage to them; but it precluded all hostile interference with the enemy. When this privilege was annulled by William III., the inhabitants of both Islands began the gainful though hazardous enterprize of privateering: those of Guernsey were peculiarly successful, for it is supposed that, during the short period of the American war, no less a sum than a million sterling was realized by the capture of French and American vessels.

Thus the Custom-house regulations having checked the smuggling trade, the bonding system in England the warehousing trade, and the peace, of course, having annihilated privateering, Guernsey has been deprived of the principal sources of her wealth; and she has not, like Jersey, directed that acquired wealth and her energies to establish a regular trade to the same extent. She has, however, a trade with South America, Spain, Portugal, and the North of Europe.

The articles imported into Guernsey are much the same as those imported into Jersey, and in a proportion commensurate with the amount of its population. Its exports are not considerable; but it sends largely to England a spirit manufactured from potatoes, which, when rectified, is sold as British brandy, and it has lately carried on a considerable traffic with England in the manufacture of lozenges: this will probably be prevented, as it has been found to evade the duties on sugar, and thus inflict an injury on the revenue, and the sugar refiners in London.

The system of BANKING is somewhat different in Guernsey than in Jersey, and is found to work better in the former than in the latter Island. In Jersey the States

do not issue notes, but some of the parishes and even individuals do (*see p. 83*); in Guernsey the States issue notes for £1 sterling: the amount in circulation is £40,000: these notes are payable on demand, and payment is secured on the revenue of the Island: the other liabilities of the States are to individuals on deposits, and to the Savings' Bank, with some wheat and money rents. The last report of the States debt gives a total of £96,765 2s. 6d. The revenue of the Island is between £8000 and £9000 a year.

The SHIPPING TRADE of Guernsey has somewhat declined, but not to the extent of its general commerce. In the year 1804 the Island possessed 133 vessels, comprising 11,550 tons; at present the number of vessels is little more than 100, but the tonnage about the same: thus it appears that the trade has a wider range than formerly, requiring larger vessels; none, however, exceed 300 tons. Some of the Islanders who were formerly merchants, or their descendants, are now, on retiring from general business, ship-owners, and confine themselves to the carrying trade: in this it is the larger ships are employed.

If the Islanders were now to build a town, they would doubtless do so in the parish of St. Sampson, and near the harbour: this is very capacious, and might be made, at a comparatively small expense, of sufficient depth to admit vessels at any time of the tide: it is now principally used for the loading of stone, being too far from the town for general purposes; it is, however, in the course of improvement. The principal objection to it is the exposure to a north-east wind: this has of late been in some measure remedied by the erection of a breakwater at its mouth. Between 60,000 and 70,000 tons of stone are annually shipped from this harbour.

Guernsey can scarcely be said to have any MANUFACTURES, strictly so called. The spirit extracted from pota-

toes, and the manufacture of lozenges, have been already noticed in the general trade of the Island : these and cider are the only articles it can be said to produce, to any extent, by manual labour, for exportation.

The AGRICULTURE of Guernsey differs very little from that of Jersey, as it respects the mode of tillage, and the rotation of crops. The Island has, certainly, the same advantages, which the sister Island possesses in an Agricultural Society, to lead the way, and to encourage improvement, which has had so good an effect in Jersey ; but their exertions have neither been so strenuous, nor so successful, and the general inclination of the land being from south to north, it cannot have the benefit of the sun's rays in the same degree : therefore is this island less productive than the other, but not more so than these circumstances would allow us to expect. The succession to property being the same in both Islands, causes the same subdivision of the lands into small fields in one as in the other, and they are both manured with the same kind of sea-weed, called in Jersey *vrais*, which is collected in like manner from the rocks. The practice also prevails here of assisting each other in their agricultural labours. These general remarks, and a reference to what has been said of the agriculture of Jersey, will give sufficient information to the reader on this subject, and make repetition unnecessary.

It may, however, be observed, that the ground is seldom allowed a fallow in either Island. A Jersey and Guernsey farmer is either not satisfied that a fallow is advantageous, or the small portion of land he has to cultivate makes it necessary that he should have a return every year. It is, however, the custom occasionally to plough very deep, thus turning up a fresh soil to renew the vigour of the old. This remark applies only to the farmers in general. Gentlemen, who cultivate their own lands, adopt a different practice, as they are not governed by the same circum-

stances. There is a mode of getting in the harvest, which, though not peculiar to the Channel Islands, prevails very generally in them all, and allows the farmers more time in this important operation, and without danger to the crop after it is reaped. Instead of carrying to a barn or stacking corn as is the custom in England, they put together a number of sheaves, the ears of corn meeting in the centre, then covered with other sheaves, so as to form a kind of thatch. In a field of two or three acres may be seen from fifteen to twenty of these small stacks, and, thus protected, they sometimes remain out a month or six weeks without injury in wet weather. The probable reason why this practice prevails so generally is the custom of the islanders to assist each other; thus requiring all the help they can command during the time of harvest.

The Island contains about 15,000 acres; allowing one third for roads, wastes, and buildings, leaves 10,000 acres for cultivation: of this, a large proportion is in orchards; but even these are made to serve also as pasture land; the practice of tethering cattle, and confining the head to a low position so as to prevent their browsing the trees, allows them to be used for this purpose. From the apples grown here is made a large quantity of cider, as it is the principal beverage of the lower orders: the better kind is shipped to the southern coast of England. The fig tree and the vine are cultivated to a considerable extent, and both thrive well. The Island also produces the Chaumantelle pear, of equal size and quality as in Jersey. It is far less wooded than its sister Island, and scarcely any trees are to be seen that can be called timber.

The only animal that need be noticed as bred in Guernsey, is the Cow. The Guernsey cow is a larger animal than that which is known in England by the various names of Alderney, Norman, or Jersey cow, and produces a greater quantity of milk, but not of equal richness, although a

Guernseyman is always prepared to contend this point. Cows are also exported, but not to the same extent as from Jersey ; not more than one third of the number, as they are less esteemed in England. It is a remarkable fact, but it has never been satisfactorily accounted for, that Guernsey produces no venomous animals. Toads will not live in the Island, although there is an incredible number in Jersey.

The trifling difference in the latitude of the two Islands, would not make any as it respects climate ; but that of Jersey is certainly the more genial. This is to be accounted for from the different inclination of the land: in Jersey the rocks forming a continued chain in the north quarter, and rising to a considerable height, present a strong barrier to the cold, and very often boisterous winds, while Guernsey is particularly exposed to them. The same average degree of temperature during the different seasons of the year, as has been given in the account of Jersey, may be considered correct as to Guernsey, making of course a slight difference in favour of Jersey, occasioned by the above circumstances, in the general average.

The diseases that most commonly prevail in Guernsey, are the same as in the other Island. Before the land in the north was drained, which forms the Braye de Valle, agues were very frequent ; but these are now scarcely known, and the many instances of longevity prove that the climate is in general salubrious.

CHAPTER XVI.

TOUR THROUGH GUERNSEY.

First Tour—St. Martin, Forest, St. Peter, Torteval, St. Saviour, St. Andrew.

IN the descriptive Tour that will now be presented to the reader, we shall bear in mind that it is intended for an English visitor, and such objects as we shall meet with on the route will be noticed as will be interesting to him ; and those of merely local interest, such as the number of ver-gées in each parish, and the amount at which they are severally rated, and such like matters as concern the islanders only, will be left unnoticed.

On leaving the town by the Grange road, and on turning to the left, the tourist will soon find himself on the road to St. Martin's, and the spire of the church will be seen in the distance ; following the main road, he will soon arrive at the church : it is scarcely more than two miles from the town. On this route he will observe Fort George on the left, and distant sea views, but nothing that claims particular notice. There is certainly nothing to admire in the church ; but it has a lofty and well-proportioned spire rising from the centre of the roof. It was consecrated in 1199, and, ancient records inform us, with peculiar pomp and solemnity : eighty-four feudal lords were present, each displaying his banner, besides many

nobles from England, and governors of the neighbouring islands: but history furnishes no particulars from that time until 1660, at which time the register of the parish begins.

The next point to which the tourist will be directed is Forest parish, as it is called, or, to use the proper term, St. Margaret of the Forest. The road is level; consequently the scenery is confined within narrow limits, but there are occasional openings towards *Petit-bo-bay* on the left, through which the sea is seen, but no distant object is visible to relieve its monotony. There is nothing worthy of notice in the church; it has certainly no pretensions to beauty, and probably never had; and the spire is low and ill-formed. It was built in the 12th century, A.D. 1163. Should the tourist be desirous of saving time, we should certainly recommend him not to delay at this point, but pass on to St. Peter's.

From the Forest the route lies more inland, but through a well-cultivated district: a ride of about two miles will bring the visitor to the parish of St. Peter in the Wood. The church is situated on the declivity of a hill, but not so low as to hide it from the neighbouring heights; its square tower of solid masonry is seen from many points in this part of the Island. It has a nave and two side aisles, and many of the windows remain as originally constructed, with their mullions and tracery entire; others have been repaired and *modernised*. A wish may be indulged that at some future time a rector may have the living who will restore these windows to their original state, when it will certainly be the most perfect and best-proportioned church in all its parts, in the whole Island: a greater number of neat dwellings are in its immediate neighbourhood than in any other. The date of its consecration is 1167.

The next point to which the tourist will be directed is Torteval: the lofty tower and spire of this church will

have been noticed by him almost from the time of his having that the Forest, and they were probably built for the double purpose of an ornament and a sea-mark.

The present structure has been built only a few years : it was consecrated by the bishop of Salisbury, in 1818. The former church in this parish owes its origin to a vow made by an ancestor of the present family of Carteret, of Jersey. A Philippe de Carteret being overtaken by a most tremendous storm—" *étant sur les ondes de la mer assailli de grande tempête, de vents et de dragons* "— as the account informs us, made a vow, if God would restore him to land, he would build a temple for his service ; he landed in safety in Rocquaine bay, and in the fulfilment of the vow he built the church. It was consecrated A.D. 1130.

The present building, when viewed at a distance, and the spire only is seen rising above the trees, seems to be nothing more than a sea-mark, but, on a nearer approach, it has a very singular appearance. The tower, which is not much less than 100 feet high, is circular, and from it rises a spire which, though not lofty, is well-proportioned, and like the noted specimen of Mr. Nash's taste in Langham Place, London, is not surmounted with any thing either for use or ornament: it cannot boast of either ball, cross, or weathercock, so that it has the appearance of an extinguisher. The walls of the church are sustained by most enormous buttresses, which are also circular : the masonry of the whole building is peculiarly neat.

The tourist will here find himself at the south-east corner of the Island ; and we would advise him to pause, and consider what portion of the time that he has allotted to himself has expired : if he has more at command than will allow him to take the direct road to the town through St. Saviour's and St. Andrew's, we would recommend him to employ it in viewing Rocquaine Bay, at the extremity of which is the Island of Lihou, in which was formerly

a priory. In this case he will return by the same road for about a quarter of a mile, when he will again find himself in the main road; the turning to the left will lead to Rocquaine Bay, and the right leads to the town, through St. Saviour's. In leaving him to his choice as time and circumstances may dictate, it will be necessary to advise him, if he decides on visiting Rocquaine bay, by all means to return to the main road: there is, certainly, what may be called a shorter cut, but it is more than likely that it would be found to be, in fact, the longer; for the roads at this part of the island are so narrow, and so intersect each other, that it would be most difficult to discover the direct road to St. Saviour's. We shall therefore suppose him returned to the point at which he made his digression, when, following the main road, it will take him to the church of St. Saviour.

There is nothing to admire in the church of this parish. It stands on rising ground, and on a first view appears to be cruciform, but the two side projections, which would correspond to the north and south transepts of a cathedral, will be found not to stand opposite to each other: but for this defect the church would have been uniform and not ill-proportioned; the roof sinks in the middle, and is supported by a row of pillars in the centre of the church: it is thus divided into two aisles. It has a high tower surmounted by an ugly spire, which is indeed the characteristic of all the spires in Guernsey, with one or two exceptions. The church has a neat monument to the memory of Charles Andros, Esq., who was lieutenant-bailiff of the Island, and died in 1805, at the advanced age of 84 years.

There was formerly a chapel in this parish, dedicated to St. Apolline, but of no interest to the visitor, except from its high antiquity. It was one of those chapels built in the seventh century, and consequently anterior to

the present churches*: nothing remains of it worthy of notice ; it is now used as a barn. The church was consecrated in 1154.

A few years since was discovered in this parish, what had every appearance of having been a grave, and probably of some illustrious person, as a sword in a steel scabbard, a lance, and a small brass ornament were found in it, but no remains whatever of a skeleton : it was lined with masonry, and about seven feet in length. If it had ever contained a corpse, it must at some time have been subject to the action of the atmosphere, and thus become decomposed. In a field at Rocquaine was also found, in 1829, a leathern purse, containing a large quantity of small silver coins, mostly of our second Edward, and Philip I. of France.

Like St. Ouen's bay in Jersey, a great part of this western side of the Island has been encroached on by the sea, and probably the inundation which devastated the former in the year 709, caused the destruction of the latter : the Hanois rocks were doubtless once joined to the land, as there are evident traces of that part having been inhabited. The tourist should be informed, and it is sometimes a very useful piece of information, that in this parish, and not far from the church, is a house of entertainment, where refreshment may be had of a character that would, probably, satisfy a traveller. It is dignified with the name of Alexander's tavern.

On leaving St. Saviour's the visitor will take the main road, which winds round the church, and which separates it from the very neat parsonage house. After proceeding about half a mile he will turn to the right, and about three quarters of a mile further another turning to the left will conduct to the parish of St. Andrew ; but to avoid any

* A particular account of the very ancient chapels in the Channel Islands may be seen in a work intitled "Cæsarea," which contains an account of the Antiquities of Jersey.

mistake, as the road here is somewhat intricate, let him always keep a distant spire, which is that of C  tel church, on his left : the distance from St. Saviour's to St. Andrew's is scarcely two miles.

There is nothing whatever worthy of especial notice to the tourist through this parish of St. Andrew ; the church stands close by the road-side ; it is a plain structure with a high square tower. It was consecrated in 1284. Two short miles from the church will conduct to the town.

Second Tour—St. Sampson, St. Michael the Archangel (the Vale), Notre Dame de la Deliverance (the C  tel).

Although in the present tour we shall conduct the stranger only through three parishes, we shall accompany him over a larger extent of ground than in the former, and over a more interesting part of the Island, and shall have to exhibit to him a greater variety of objects worthy his attention.

In the tour to St. Sampson's, the route lies through the part of the town called the Pollet, and after passing a ship-yard on the right, the visitor will emerge on the Esplanade, from which he will be presented with a fine sea view, commanding the neighbouring Islands, Belgrave Bay, and Castle Cornet. Following the line of road which lies before him, he will pass several batteries, and two martello towers, which protect this part of the bay. At a short distance on the left of the road is Ivy Castle, which is supposed to have been a Danish encampment, and seems to have been fortified after the manner usual with that people ; but nothing more worthy of notice until he shall have reached St. Sampson's. A building on the left near the entrance, called Grandes Maisons, has been supposed by the Islanders

to be Saxon ; but this conjecture rests solely on its having a door-way with a circular arch, which is supposed to be Saxon ; it has, however, no ornament or characteristic peculiar to that style to prove its high antiquity. The building was probably erected about the same time as the churches in the 12th century. There is nothing remaining that would at all interest an antiquary.

On his arrival at the extremity of the road, St. Sampson's harbour will suddenly open to his view, and should it be the time of high water, and at a time when several ships are there, it will present an interesting scene. It is at present used for no other purpose than to load vessels with stone, and it is no unusual thing to see from twenty to thirty there at a time. It has already been observed, that if the Islanders were now to choose a spot to build a town at which to carry on their trade, they would doubtless fix on St. Sampson's, and make the present harbour a convenient wet dock. It is capable of containing a very large number of ships, and has a depth of water at spring tides of about twenty-five feet : the southern side is protected by a sea wall, which runs out from the base of Mount Crevelt. Having taken a view of the harbour, the visitor will ascend this mount, on which is a battery that commands the harbour and the approach to St. Peter's port, and he will from its summit enjoy a most extensive sea view, comprehending with more distinctness all the objects already noticed—Vale Castle on the opposite hill, the line of rugged coast of the Island stretching to the northward, and a distant view of Vale church on the left.

St. Sampson's church is on the right of the road, and near the harbour. It is the most ancient church in the Island, and a part of it may doubtless claim a higher antiquity than is generally attributed to it. Besides the monasteries that are known to have existed in Guernsey, there were several chapels, one of which stood on the site of the present

church: it has been supposed that it was entirely removed on the church being built; but, on an examination, it will be clearly seen that a considerable part of the former building was allowed to remain, and which now forms part of the present structure. It will be observed that one of the buttresses partly closes up what must have been a door-way to another building: this was doubtless the entrance to the chapel which stood on this spot, and the arch which rises above it springs on one side from the buttress, and on the other from a corbel, which could not have been the original construction, and there seems no reason why it should have been altered to its present state since the building of the church; it may therefore be pronounced to be a part of the ancient chapel. It will also be observed, that all the arches from this point running towards the west entrance are more depressed than those on the other end, and those at the east side, which are more pointed, two of which have some of the tracery remaining, which proves that this was the arch used in the building of the church, whereas the part which has the depressed arch is the part which remained of the chapel: supposing this opinion to be correct, the tower itself will be included in the most ancient part, which opinion is confirmed by the character of the masonry, as well as by the position of the tower itself, as it seems rather to be an accident to the building than to be a part of a regularly digested plan. This portion of a building that was probably erected in the seventh century certainly does not add to the beauty of the present structure; but it gives it a deep interest in the eyes of an antiquary. The church was consecrated in 1111.

On the opposite side of the harbour stands Vale Castle, on a hill of considerable height, but the access to it is easy. It was built during the time that the Danes committed their ravages in England, and when they occasionally came over to Guernsey for the sake of plunder. The desolating

effects of a thousand years have left little remaining ; but from the thickness of the walls, and its commanding situation, at the time it was built, and before the use of cannon, it must have been an impregnable fortress.*

From the hill on which the castle stands is a still more extensive sea view than from Mount Crevelt, embracing a larger portion of the north and north-west of the Island, giving the outline of a most rugged coast, and presenting a wider and more diversified prospect inland.

The next point to which the tourist will direct his course is Vale parish. The church, with its tapering spire, has been distinctly seen from the hills already noticed. While viewing the castle, the tourist has, of course, left his carriage at the foot of the hill. If he is travelling *en cavalier*, he will find a pleasant bridle-way through some fields to the main road, and somewhat shorter ; but in a carriage it would be preferable to return by the route he came to the opposite side of the harbour, where he will readily find the direct road to the church. When within about a quarter of a mile from that object the road takes a sudden turn to the right, which will conduct him directly to it.

Vale church, as it is now termed, but, giving it its proper name, St. Michael in the Vale, stands on an eminence, as do most of the churches in Guernsey, and is approached through a kind of close. As this part of the Island will engage somewhat of his time, it would be desirable to leave his horse or vehicle at a small public house on the right, where refreshment of an ordinary character may be obtained, and proceed on foot to survey the various objects that will here claim his attention in this neighbourhood. This church, next to St. Sampson's, is the most ancient in the Island ; it was consecrated in 1117. The interior is divided into two aisles ; the two sides of the roof rest on two external walls, and the centre on a row of pillars, which

* See General History.

causes this division. It was originally a handsome building, but it has undergone many alterations, and what were doubtless considered improvements at the time they were made; but it is to be regretted that so little regard has been paid to preserving the original character of sacred edifices when the lapse of time had made repairs necessary. One of the east windows of this church remains in its original state, with all its tracery entire, but it is the only one that the destroyer Time, or modern innovators, have left to the present day. It may be questioned whether the arches on the north side, projecting from the wall and supported on corbels, are part of the original building, or inserted since its erection: they will not, however, be included in the censure to be bestowed on *modern improvements*, as doubtless they were added, if added at all, previously to the fifteenth century. A curious piece of stone-work will be seen on the south side of the church, resting on the ground: it has the appearance of having been a seat, as it has a circular back, and not unlike a modern easy chair. It is, however, too low to have been used for that purpose in its present situation: it may have been removed from a more ancient building, and placed there seven hundred and fifty years ago, as a piece of antiquity at that time.

There cannot be a doubt that a considerable part of this church is more ancient than the date of its erection in 1117; and that a chapel or the monastery which formerly stood on this site was not entirely taken down when it was built, but that the walls, which were most solid and substantial, form part of the present building, although it may not be traced so clearly as in the case of St. Sampson's. It is to be observed that the arch which forms the entrance to the porch on the north side is pointed, whereas the arch at the entrance from the porch into the church itself is more depressed. If this should not be sufficiently satisfactory to the antiquary who may examine it, he

will observe that the porch is built against an arch over a window; on one side it springs from a corbel, and on the other side it is hidden by the roof. The only probable solution of this is, that the porch may have been built subsequently to the church, and thus the arch partially concealed by it; but this will appear unlikely on examining the construction of the arches, all of which are more depressed on this side, and the visitor will particularly observe the segment of an arch inserted in this wall, which proves beyond a doubt that this is a remain of an older building.

Near the west door will be seen several large stones, one of which, resting on two others, some have pronounced to be a cromlech, or what is called in the Island a Poquelaye: there may be some doubt of this, although they certainly have the appearance of having been a Druid temple: if so, it was one of considerable magnitude, as the stones lying about it must have formed a part, though displaced from their original position.

From the hill on which the church stands, and looking north, the tourist will see, in an opening between two hills, the remains of a Druid temple. He will of course visit this monument of Pagan superstition: it is the most perfect that now remains on the Island. A pleasant walk of three quarters of a mile will conduct to it; and from the elevated spot on which it stands, the visitor will command a view of the whole northern coast of the Island. This cromlech is composed of five superincumbent stones, resting on eighteen supporters, with others that originally formed part of the entrance: the outer circle can still be easily traced. This was unknown until about the year 1812, when, by some accidental circumstance, it was revealed. Another Druid temple is to be seen on the north-east part, scarcely more than a mile from the other, but unless the visitor means to make a tour of the coast, in which case it would not be far out of his road, it would scarcely be worth a

visit. Besides these two, there is another single stone which the Islanders say is a Poquelaye : it stands on the common lying between the church and the one already described, almost buried among the furze.

Our proposed route will now lie towards Câtel parish. The tourist will take the main road, and continue it, leaving several others to the right and left : he will pass over a tract of land that was reclaimed from the sea, as already noticed in the general description of the Island ; it consisted of about 300 acres, and is called the Braye du Valle. It was formerly overflowed by a channel communicating with the sea, but in 1808 Sir John Doyle, who was then Lieutenant-governor, caused an immense embankment to be raised against the sea, and the part that was overflowed has been brought into cultivation. In about two miles, he will arrive at the seat of the late Lord de Saumarez. It is pleasantly situated on the right of the road : the house is a neat building, and one of the principal in the Island, though an English traveller will see nothing in it that demands particular notice. At a short distance on the road towards the King's Mills, he will pass a house that will attract his attention : it bears the name of Haye du Puits, and is doubtless the most ancient building in the Island at present inhabited by one of the upper classes. The style of architecture is what is known in England by the term Elizabethan ; although we should be disposed to give it a somewhat higher antiquity than the reign of that princess, perhaps one of the Henrys immediately preceding ; but report, or rather tradition, as it reaches back three hundred years, ascribes the building of it to the Earl of Essex, who, while under the displeasure of Queen Elizabeth, was for some time in Alderney ; and while there came over to Guernsey and built the house. This is stated to be a tradition, and we give it no higher authority, nor does it seem likely that the Earl, making a short sojourn in Guern-

sey, would be induced to erect a mansion, unless, indeed, his visits were frequent, and he found none affording sufficient accommodation. It was, however, certainly built by some person of eminence, during her reign, or of those of her immediate predecessors. The tower has a spiral stone staircase; the whole building will attract the especial notice of an antiquary. We next pass by an estate called St. George; at the bottom of the grounds is a well, the water of which is said to be so medicinal, as to cure all kinds of diseases: the stories told of this spring are marvellously ridiculous, and had their origin, doubtless, in popish ignorance and superstition.

The tourist will now direct his course to the King's Mills, a village somewhat more than a mile distant, and, as a village, the principal in Guernsey. The lord of the manor formerly claimed the right of grinding all the corn in the island, which it may well be supposed was a most lucrative monopoly: this right was afterwards escheated to the Crown. These rights no longer exist, but the mill still retains its regal name.

At this village is a house of entertainment called the King's Head, but more known as Carrington's Hotel, a piece of information that may be useful to the tourist, if he should be disposed to extend his route to Lihou, an island scarcely three miles to the westward, or, as it should rather be called, a peninsula, as it is at the extremity of a neck of land, which is overflowed as the tide rises. Here are the remains of a monastery, the ruins of which are by no means perfect: indeed, a very small portion remains, as they were blown up during the late war, lest they should afford a lodgment for the enemy; and unless he has strong antiquarian feeling, would be hardly worth a visit. The island of Lihou can of course at all times be visited in a boat: but the stranger should also be informed that this is not always to be had. It would therefore be desirable that he

should obtain information at the village, or he may travel some five or six miles of ground to no purpose.

After leaving the King's Mills, the tourist will retrace the same road he has passed about a quarter of a mile, when a sudden turn to the right will conduct him up a steep hill to the C  tel church. Ascending this, and on looking back, he will have a fine sea view, taking in a considerable part of the west coast of the Island, at the utmost bounds of which is Lihou, already noticed. Soon after reaching the top of the hill, he will see on his left, in a large open space, a considerable number of low stone pillars, ranged in order, and formed into three or four rows. Any one in search of the wonderful would immediately fancy he had lighted on a most marvellous Poquelaye, and that it was a favourite resort of fairies, who delighted to dwell amidst such assemblages of stones ; but he will be more amused than gratified in the object of his search, when he learns that it is no other than a place appropriated to a cattle fair, and that far less a  rial animals than fairies occasionally assemble here, and are tied to these stone pillars to prevent escape.

A very short distance will now conduct to C  tel church. This stands on the top of a hill, and is a very prominent object from many points of the Island. The C  tel, as the parish is now called, is doubtless a corruption of the word castle, as a castle once stood on its site : it has however a more appropriate name in *Notre Dame de la Deliverance*—at least it was so esteemed when it was dedicated to the Virgin in 1203. It consists of two aisles and a chancel, with a square tower, surmounted by an octagonal spire. The interior has within a few years been decorated : it has a neat pulpit, and some of the pews are of mahogany, which, however elegant this may be in modern-built churches, does not well associate with the ancient part of the building ; there is, however, a neat screen in one of the

aisles, terminated by a pillar, which is more in keeping. There is a small remain of ancient tracery in the east window, but with this exception all the windows are disfigured with modern sashes. This is not the only instance of parsimony displayed in this church ; there is a very economical mural monument, transmitting to the present time no less than the names of eight members of the Cary and Andros families, extending from the year 1778 to 1801. In the churchyard are several handsome tombs. This part of the country, with the exception of St. Peter's parish, is inhabited by a larger portion of the upper classes than any other in the Island.

We now proceed to the town. On leaving C  tel church, and descending the hill, the view on the left is remarkably fine : it is one of the few patches in Guernsey that has the variety and richness as the views in Kent, but, of course, without their extent : towards the bottom of the hill, on the left, is a fine view through a vista of trees. In the distance, and forming a prominent object at the termination of the vista, is seen Vale church, which gives a beautiful finish to the picture. On our further progress to the town, the undulating nature of the ground furnishes a pleasing variety of near and distant scenery. The approach to St. Peter's Port from this road will remind the English tourist of his entrance to London through Turnham Green : first a few scattered houses, then rows of neat buildings. There may, perhaps, be too much of a studied uniformity in the Guernsey buildings, and like the gardens in France at the time that Pope wrote, when paths and parterres were so regularly laid out, that

“ Every image had its fellow.”

Passing through Rohairs, the tourist will soon find himself in the town, and thus conclude his tour through the Island.

THE ISLAND OF ALDERNEY.

CHAPTER XVII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ISLAND—THE HARBOUR—THE TOWN OF ST. ANNE—PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND INSTITUTIONS—AGRICULTURE AND PRODUCE—THE INHABITANTS AND THEIR OCCUPATIONS.

ALDERNEY is situated at the north-west point of the great bay of St. Michael, and is distant from the nearest part of the coast of France about seven miles, from Jersey thirty miles, from Guernsey twenty-one miles. The extreme length of the Island is somewhat more than three miles and a half; the average breadth not more than a mile and a half, and about ten in circumference; the inclination of the land is similar to that in Guernsey. The highest part of the land is on the south side, or rather on the south-west, and falling towards the north-east, thus losing the advantage that so peculiarly belongs to Jersey, of having the larger portion of its surface exposed to the rays of the sun; but it receives these in a larger proportion than Guernsey, as it is more intersected by valleys, thus leaving a comparatively larger surface to be so exposed. Along the southern and south-western sides are seen cliffs from one hundred and fifty to two hundred feet high, but on the opposite side the shore is flat, with small and accessible bays, except on some points on the northern side, where the cliffs are of considerable height. Like the other Islands

in the great bay, on the entrance of which Alderney is situated, it is surrounded with rocks, and the approach to it is dangerous, not only from this circumstance, but from the perplexity of the tides that rapidly follow each other, and which at some times of the flood meet in an opposite direction. This is particularly to be observed in "The Race," which is the channel between the Island and the coast of France, and which constitutes the principal danger of that course. Here the tide wave becomes contracted, being intercepted by the Island, and consequently driven into the channel which is formed between it and the coast of France, which occasions the rapidity of the current. It was formerly not unfrequently passed by sailing vessels from Southampton to Jersey, when the state of the wind would not allow them to make the western side of the Island, but since the introduction of steam power, by which vessels take a more direct course, that dangerous passage is altogether avoided.

Another dangerous part on the coast of Alderney is "The Swinge:" this is a channel between the Island and the Isle of Burhou, rendered dangerous by the numerous rocks which extend in all directions from the shore. Owing to many of these rocks being covered at high water, and even at a lower state of the tide, though often scarcely below the surface, no one who is not fully acquainted with the coast would venture to pilot a vessel to the harbour.

These rocks checking the tide, not only occasion a rapid current, sometimes exceeding six miles in an hour, but they are so situated as to cause eddies to meet in various directions, and in some instances many are brought to one point, and with such force as almost to deprive the helm of any power over the vessel, except in what the sailors call a stiff breeze, when she could make good head way. The *Banc de la Chole*, which lies to the southward, is also a dangerous part for vessels of a large draught of water:

it has not more than two fathoms at a usual low tide, and at the lowest state of a spring tide not so much.

About a mile and a half to the westward of the Island is the rock *Ortac*, which is one hundred feet high, and is connected with a chain of rocks that stretches from *Burhou*. At the distance of somewhat more than eight miles in the same direction are the *Caskets*, remarkable for their well-known light-house: the *Caskets* consist of an assemblage of rocks, in circumference about a mile, but these will be more particularly described hereafter.

There are besides two other Islands not far from the shore of Alderney, which may be termed colonies, and deserve notice on account of the peculiarity of their inhabitants; one is *Burhou*, peopled only by rabbits; the other is called *Rat Island*, no other race than that of rats claiming possession of the territory. It is presumed that the sporting youth of the Island resort to these to exercise their skill in shooting.

Having thus presented to the reader the general appearance of Alderney, described its coast, and whatever is interesting in the objects surrounding it, we next conduct him to the interior of the Island, and glance at the harbour, the town, and whatever else may deserve notice.

The entrance to the harbour, which is called the *Braye*, is on the north-west side of the Island; a kind of promontory projects to the westward, so as in some measure to protect it, notwithstanding there may be a considerable swell in the bay in which it is situated; and vessels are further protected by a pier, formed in a slight curve, and running in an opposite direction from the promontory, thus narrowing the entrance to the bay. It need scarcely be observed that it is merely a tide harbour, and dry at low water. The pier is of very rude construction, but it serves as a promenade for the few unemployed in Alderney, and it is

a point of attraction on the arrival or departure of vessels to witness the not very stirring scene.

The harbour already described was built in 1736, and by an Order in Council the dues that are collected are appropriated to keep it in repair; previously to that time the inhabitants used a small harbour not far distant from the Braye, called Craby, but it is now only resorted to by boats. There is another small harbour for boats in Longy Bay, on the south-east side of the Island.

After landing at the Braye harbour the roadway to the town of St. Anne, at about three quarters of a mile distant, lies over a somewhat unpleasant road formed of deep sand for a considerable distance, and winds round a hill, on which are seen some few good houses, but the town itself has nothing to attract an English visitor. With very few exceptions the houses are low and mean, and the streets, of which there are not more than three or four that deserve the name, were ill paved, but have lately had the benefit of new pavement: it has about 250 houses, with a population of 1030, according to the census of 1841. Besides the few houses that are inhabited by the authorities, medical man, and minister, they are mostly like those which are seen in small villages in England; but having no houses running parallel to them behind, they are nearly all furnished with yards at the back, with all the appendages of an English farm yard, though certainly on a small scale: these are mostly surrounded by a low stone wall.

There is no manufacture of any kind on the whole Island excepting tobacco, and this on a very small scale: the articles sold in the shops, of which there are a few in the town, are mostly supplied from Guernsey by the trading vessels, which constantly sail between the two Islands, though at no fixed periods: the time may, however, always be known by inquiry at the respective post offices.

The English visitor will be disappointed if he expects to

find anything beyond very ordinary accommodation at the houses of public resort. There is, however, one not far from the entrance of the town from the harbour, which combines the different qualifications of an inn and boarding house, in which he will find fare that ought to satisfy a traveller, and civility that must satisfy every body. The other public houses are solely for the accommodation of the Islanders.

After entering the main street of the town, the church is seen on the right, near an open place called the Square : near the church is the Government house, which, as may well be supposed, is the best in the Island.

There is a chapel in the town for the public service of the Wesleyan Methodists, the only class of dissenters there. It was built in 1787, the result of a visit of Dr. Adam Clarke, who at that time formed the society. The Island was visited the same year by John Wesley and Dr. Coke.

It was no uncommon thing formerly to find, in many parts of England, a space of ground, and sometimes a house, appropriated for the public use as a place for washing. Southampton, till of late years, had one of the latter, situate in Houndwell, and called Houndwell house, with water conveyed into it for the use of that very useful class called washerwomen. This convenience is still continued in Alderney. In an open space near the church is a large pump, surrounded by several troughs, and drains to carry off the water, which form part of the accommodation.

There is a house also near the church which is called the market, but which will not need further notice*, and

* There can be no doubt the reader will be of this opinion when we quote a remark of a visitor to the Island, published in 1830.

* The market house, erected by the order of the states, August, 1799, is near the square, and close to the churchyard ; but this was opened only once during my abode on the Island, and then only for the purpose of killing or dressing a calf there.

the Court house may be passed with the same remark: neither will claim any attention from a visitor.

The Island has the benefit of a free school. In 1790 Mr. Le Mesurier built a school-house for boys, and endowed it by investing £400 in the British funds, the interest of which forms the master's salary, with 3*d.* per week which he is allowed to receive from each scholar. Mrs. Le Mesurier at the same time established a girls' school at her private residence, the mistress of which was allowed to receive 6*s.* per quarter from each girl as her salary. The two schools have between 50 and 60 scholars each. One great object is to teach them the English language.

Of the produce of Alderney, comprehending animals under the term, that which is most prominent and the most important, is well known in England as the "Alderney Cow." It must be admitted that very few are sent from the Island, but mostly from Jersey; there is, however, but a slight difference between the species of the two Islands, but to Alderney certainly belongs the credit of having first furnished to England this beautiful and much esteemed animal. The peculiar characteristics of the Alderney cow are short horns, back straight, haunches broad, legs straight, eyes sparkling. It may be said of a cow, as of a horse, that a good one cannot be of a bad colour, but that most esteemed as a good milcher, and certainly the most to be admired as a living ornament in a park, is a deep fawn colour, without any intermixture, except on the legs, which are generally white. The Guernsey cow is a larger animal, and the Islanders contend that it gives the richer milk, and they appeal to the richness of the butter in proof: this point must be left to be settled between the several islands, but the estimate in England is decidedly in favour of the Alderney and Jersey cow. The average quantity of milk given by an Alderney cow is from twelve to fourteen

quarts daily, and instances have been known of 14 lb. of butter (18 oz. to the lb.) being the weekly produce of one cow in good feed. The horses of the Island are small; but the hog, which is mostly a mixed breed of English and French, is large, and sometimes fatted to weigh as much as a small island ox. A few sheep are to be seen on the down land, a fair proportion for the size of the Island, and as Guernsey does not breed many, a supply is occasionally sent to that market.

The principal agricultural produce of the Island is wheat and barley; scarcely any oats are grown; but even of the former not sufficient for the consumption of the inhabitants. Lucerne is almost the only green-crop that is grown to any extent: of roots, potatoes almost to the exclusion of all others, but of these, considering the small extent of the Island, a considerable quantity is exported.

Formerly the Island carried on a considerable traffic in contraband, particularly in spirits; which the English Government has wisely checked. The trade is now mostly confined to the export of potatoes and lobsters to England. The articles of consumption and clothing brought into the Island scarcely exceed in amount £60,000 annually; but owing to their very limited trade, and the very few internal resources possessed by the Islanders, they find a difficulty of paying this comparatively small amount. Since the peace the population has decreased, the rents of houses have diminished, while many are unoccupied, with other symptoms of decay. A petition was presented to the Lords in Council in 1818 to take into consideration the depressed state of the Island, but we do not find it was attended with any beneficial result.

There is no direct communication between England and Alderney by authority. The mail packets take the letters to Guernsey, and they are forwarded when an opportunity occurs of a trading vessel going to the Island. The

steamers however on the Southampton passage do occasionally call at Alderney for the accommodation of passengers, though this is but seldom.

Of the manners and habits of the inhabitants of Alderney, little can be said. These are now similar to those of Jersey and Guernsey some fifty years ago, before the late war introduced those Islanders more to their fellow subjects in England, and other adventitious circumstances led to an extended intercourse with other nations: but while this intercourse has to a certain extent improved their general character, the inhabitants of Alderney still retain their wonted homeliness, and this will doubtless remain, while their total exclusion from all society, except that which is to be found in the Island itself, shall continue to be their lot.

The principal employment of the Islanders is the culture of the land and fishing. A considerable quantity of rock fish and conger eels are caught round the Island: these are brought on shore for home consumption, and the latter mostly dried for winter use; but lobsters, with which the coast abounds, are sent for the supply of the English market, and a little speculation in a contraband trade, either to France or England, suits the taste of the more adventurous; but this is now to a very limited extent. A few persons are employed in spinning wool, but this can scarcely be called a branch of trade, as the article when prepared is mostly made into garments for the use of the Islanders.

In what has been said on the Island produce, and the employment of the Islanders, may be comprehended their trade: the only addition to the articles there specified, as articles of traffic, is spirits; these form a very considerable part of the consumption of the Islanders, which they take diluted as a common beverage, as very little either of beer or cider is used.

CHAPTER XVIII.

GENERAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY—CIVIL JURISDICTION—
MILITARY HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT—THE CASKETS.

VERY little is known of the ancient history of Alderney. From that little it appears that the Island has always followed the destiny of the other islands in the Channel. In its civil and military state, it became an appendage to the English Crown, at the same time as Jersey and Guernsey ; but it was not included in the grant of Childebert to St. Sampson, when the latter islands were conferred on him, as an augmentation of the see of Dol, in 550. Previously to this, all the religious houses in the Islands were subject to the Abbey de Veto, at Cherbourg ; but as Alderney was so remote from Dol, it remained attached to the Abbey until the sweeping measure of Henry VIII. levelled all these distinctions, and brought all ecclesiastical affairs under the sovereignty of the English Crown.*

Although all the other Islands, not excepting the small Island of Serk, have been the object of attack from enemies, yet there is no instance on record in which Alderney has even been seriously threatened with invasion. It has always been to the coast of France as a quiet and peaceful neighbour, even during a state of hostility. It has not

* The remains of a building are still to be seen, which was doubtless a nunnery, as it still bears the name ; but as the walls now form a part of other buildings, and so little remains of the original structure, no opinion can be formed of either the time of its erection, or of its extent.

possessed sufficient enterprise or the other "sinews of war" to furnish annoyance to the trade of the enemy, and the bare acquisition of the Island would have been of little advantage to the French government, as the promontory of Cape la Hogue, standing far into the sea, westward, and the neighbourhood of Cherbourg as a naval station, would render the Island unimportant, either in a commercial or maritime view. Another consideration may have prevented a hostile attack: its comparatively defenceless state would probably cause it to become an easy prey to an invading foe, but the honour of England would be roused to recover the lost territory, although of no real advantage to her government.

There appears, however, to have been a time when the English government contemplated placing the Island in a state of defence, and the Protector Somerset caused a castle to be begun on a hill above the bay of Longy. This was at the time that the French made their attacks on all the other Islands, and when they actually possessed themselves of the Island of Serk; but it appears that this castle was never finished, probably being considered useless, partly for the reasons already stated, and partly because the danger to the Island no longer existed, as the French were unsuccessful in their attacks on Jersey and Guernsey, and were ultimately dispossessed of Serk.

Of the ecclesiastical history of Alderney there is little to notice since the time of the Reformation. The patent granted by the Crown to Sir E. Andros, by Charles II., and afterwards to Mr. Le Mesurier, by George III., already noticed, conferred the right of presentation to the living of St. Anne; Mr. Mesurier, as Governor, receiving the tithes, has since appropriated the sum of £50 annually to the incumbent, who is styled "Minister;" this has been subsequently increased by £40 a year from Queen Anne's bounty.

As all the Islands in the British Channel became subject to the sovereignty of England at the same time, the constitution was continued to them as they had it under the dukes of Normandy ; they were governed by the same laws as were then in force, and they were all allowed to retain the privileges peculiar to the respective Islands. Thus we find a great similarity in all these respects, in Jersey, Guernsey, and Alderney ; yet, as there are some few points of difference which have been made to suit the peculiar circumstances of either Island, it will be necessary to state those which relate to Alderney.

The Court of Alderney is composed of six jurats, who are chosen by the commonalty of the Island, and a superior officer, who presides as judge, and who is appointed by the Governor. This Court has no power to try criminal causes, and can only take preliminary measures, as a magistrate in England, by examining witnesses, and taking their depositions, which are sent to the Royal Court of Guernsey, where the criminal is to be arraigned. Civil causes are tried by this court, but as an appeal lies to the Royal Court of Guernsey, they are usually sent there at once, if involving any question of importance.

As the civil and criminal jurisdiction of Alderney is subject to the Royal Court of Guernsey, so is the military government under the control of the Lieutenant-governor of the latter Island : this, however, is of late occurrence. The history of the Island in its civil, ecclesiastical, and military constitution, is given in few words. By an ancient record relative to the Island of the reign of Henry III., we learn that at that time it was held jointly by the Crown and the Church, but by what authority the appointments were made, how the jurisdiction was exercised, and in what way the revenues were applied, we have no means at this distance of time of ascertaining. At the Reformation, the whole became the property of the Crown. By an extent

of James I., anno 1607, it appears that the Crown was "entitled to the *amendes*, or perquisites of the courts, the *treiziesme* upon sales of lands, wrecks, and other princely rights and royalties." * These were granted by Charles II. in 1683, to Sir Edmund Andros, Knt., at the yearly rent of thirteen shillings, for the term of 99 years, and which conferred the title of governor and civil jurisdiction of the Island. This lease having been surrendered in the early part of the reign of George III., it was renewed on the same terms to John Le Mesurier, Esq., for a like period of 99 years. Mr. Le Mesurier and his successors, by virtue of this lease, or rather patent, having assumed a power to which the Jurats considered he was not entitled, the case was brought before the Privy Council in 1813. The result was, an order from the Horse Guards, directed to Sir J. Colborne, who was then Lieutenant-governor of Guernsey, directing him to assume the military command of Alderney, and to appoint an officer to reside on the Island as his lieutenant, with the title of Governor; this is now held by an officer of the rank of major in the British service.

The result of this dispute was the retirement of Mr. Le Mesurier from the Island altogether, having deputed another to act for him in the capacity to which he considered himself entitled; and he has subsequently surrendered to the Crown the grant of the Government that had descended to him from his ancestors, on his receiving a pecuniary compensation†; so that the Island is now wholly subject to the Crown, and intermediately to the military government and Royal Court of Guernsey.

* Jacob's Annals.

† It is generally understood that £700 a year was secured to him during the remaining term of the patent.

The Caskets.

The Caskets (Light House) are well known by every person having sailed from England to the southward, and taken his departure from Southampton or any port to the eastward of the Wight, to the coast of France in the bay of St. Michael, not only on account of their standing so far out at sea, but by the peculiarity of the lights. In the direct course which the steam vessels take from the Needle Rocks to the islands of Jersey and Guernsey, they are seen at no great distance on the left, or eastward of the ship's course. They are distant from Alderney between eight and nine miles, and from Guernsey about fifteen.

Previously to 1723, when the light-houses were erected, several vessels had been wrecked on the rocks on which they are built; but the loss of the Albion frigate caused the government at that time to see the necessity of some provision to prevent similar disasters. The result was the building of the light-houses, which were begun the same year, and finished in 1723: by a patent from George I. they were placed under the direction of the Trinity House. The lights, which have served as beacons during the long course of years since they have been erected for the purpose, have partaken of the improvements which science has produced. At first the light was formed by a coal fire, kept in a constant flame by the action of bellows. In 1779, lamps supplied by oil and placed in a copper frame, highly planished to reflect the light, were substituted for the coal fire: these continued till 1790, when in consequence of the Casket Lights having been mistaken for others, it was resolved to give them a different appearance, and these were replaced by revolving Argand lamps: thus the lights are now alternately visible and obscured.

Seen by night, and at a distance, they have the appearance of being near each other, and within one building,

but they are fixed on three separate structures, and which, when viewed by day, have the appearance of towers. They are built in a triangular form ; two are about fifty feet apart, the other about one hundred and fifty. The whole is enclosed by a dwarf wall : within this area are contained the dwelling for the constant attendants, a store-house, and a small neat house for the inspector from the Trinity House, when he visits the station. The whole of the rocks on which the light-houses and other buildings stand, are about a mile and a half in circumference, besides a number of sunken rocks that lie around, yet are they in some parts so precipitous, that a man-of-war may pass with safety within a few feet.*

There are two landing places ; one for boats, the other a kind of harbour, and sufficiently large to receive a vessel of considerable size, with conveniences to discharge a cargo. This of course supposes the weather to be calm ; for it need scarcely to be observed, that in a gale of wind or even with a stiff breeze, it would be dangerous to approach. On this account the station is well supplied with salt meat, biscuit, flour, &c., and the leisure which the occupation allows the inmates during the day, enables them to provide themselves with fish, and a small garden formed of mould brought to the rocks, furnishes them with vegetables. The station is attended by four persons and their wives.

* The well-known catastrophe of the loss of William, the son of Henry I., with a great number of the nobility of England, has been related to have occurred on these rocks ; but this must be an error, as it occurred soon after their embarkation at Barfleur, and in consequence of the captain and seamen having been intoxicated while on shore.

CHAPTER XIX.

HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION OF SERK—GENERAL DESCRIPTION—
 LITTLE SERK—SILVER AND COPPER MINES—AGRICULTURE AND
 PRODUCE—INHABITANTS AND THEIR OCCUPATIONS.

SERK, though so small an island, is not unknown to history : indeed, it claims a precedency over the other islands in the Channel, as being the first that had a building erected for christian worship. It has already been related in the general history of Jersey and Guernsey, that Magloire, previously to his going to the former Island, where he was established, landed in Serk, about the year 560, and where he built a small monastery. We have no further account of this religious house until the time of Edward III., at the commencement of whose reign a pension was allowed to it by the crown, "*Conventui Sancti Maglorii in Insula Sargiensi*;" but it was soon after suppressed, probably on account of its poverty, and the monks were removed.

To what extent the Island was at that time peopled we are not clearly informed, or whether it was totally uninhabited except by the ecclesiastics who had retired thither to be excluded from the world; but the next account we have is, that it was resorted to by pirates*, and other marauders on the sea, as a convenient spot from which to commit their depredations; and this is not improbable, as the deserted building would afford them shelter while on shore. The foundations of this building were in existence till 1821, when Mr. Le Pelley, who was then the Seigneur of Serk, had them taken up to level the ground. A stra-

* Another account states, that on the departure of the monks the people, who were previously restrained by them, became pirates.

tagem practised by those men is related—not improbable from their character and the barbarous times in which they lived—that they held out false lights to decoy vessels to the island, that they might be wrecked on the coast, and thus become a prey to the miscreants.

From this time to the reign of Henry VIII. there are many traditions respecting the Island of Serk, but they rest on a foundation so slender, and so little supported by historic proof, that we pass them over, and begin the modern account of the Island from authentic documents.

We learn from the chronicles of Normandy that in the year 1549 the French, finding the Island uninhabited, took possession of it with four hundred men, commanded by a Captain Brunel: these established themselves, and built two forts. They held possession till the reign of Mary. During this interval many of the original settlers had quitted the Island, and the few that remained were scarcely sufficient for its protection. At this time we were at war with France. Some Flemish vessels having arrived in Guernsey, a plan was concerted to make a descent upon Serk. The Guernseymen joined the Flemings: they landed in Little Serk in the night, and took possession of the Island without opposition. But the fate of Serk was still to be uninhabited for a longer time: the commander of the Flemish forces having taken possession in the name of Philip his sovereign, came to England and proffered the Island to queen Mary; but she, probably thinking it of no value, either took no notice of the proposal, or rejected the offer: the Island was again deserted, and the forts razed to the foundation.

Another attempt was afterwards made by the French to regain possession of the Island. The Seigneur of Glatney in Normandy having proposed to the king of France to colonize it as his own expense, on condition that he should hold it *in capite* under the crown of that kingdom, he

obtained the grant, but the plan was never executed. In order to prevent the French making similar attempts, and becoming troublesome neighbours to the other islands, it was concerted between Helier de Carteret, the Seigneur of St. Ouen in Jersey, and the authorities of Guernsey, that it should be taken by De Carteret as his possession, but to hold it under the latter Island, on his paying fifty sols into the exchequer of Guernsey, on account of the Crown of England, of whom De Carteret was to hold it. This agreement was confirmed by a grant of queen Elizabeth in 1565.

De Carteret, having the Island secured to him by royal patent, fixed his residence there with his family ; and having reserved a considerable portion for himself, divided the remainder into forty estates, which he let to tenants on the plan of a copyhold in England. He began cultivating the land with a diligence and perseverance that was unusual at that time ; and his tenants, thus encouraged, and seeing the result of his labours, and aided by the excellent quality of the soil, soon brought the Island into a state of cultivation that fully repaid their toil.

The system that was adopted as it respects the estates continues unchanged. There are still the forty undivided estates ; for it is the law, or rather the rule, of the Seigneur, not to allow any subdivision : a man may sell his estate, but he must sell the whole,—he cannot dispose of a part ; and by the rule of inheritance Serk is more aristocratic than the neighbouring islands ; for while lands acquired by descent in Jersey and Guernsey are more or less divided, whether to sons or daughters, the estate in Serk descends to the eldest son. This is indeed a wise provision, for as they do not exceed from fifteen to twenty acres, a subdivision of this small property, and especially if into many parts, which may sometimes happen, would reduce the Island to a state of Irish pauperism. As it is, the occupier has a sufficiency

to maintain himself and a family. This may seem hard on the younger branches, but it is not really so, for they generally leave their homes at an early period of their lives, where they must have lived in a state of comparative indigence, to seek their well-being where employment is to be found.

Serk, with a most forbidding aspect on an approach to its shores, is a beautiful little island. It is entirely surrounded by high precipitous rocks, or by steep and jagged acclivities, at the few points where the Island is accessible. These are Grande Havre, near the isthmus which connects Great and Little Serk ; Port des Moulins on the western side ; but the only landing place which has a road leading from it to the interior of the Island is at Creux Harbour, which is on the eastern side. This is nothing more than a bay formed by two high rocks projecting towards the sea, and the entrance so narrow that it is well protected, except when the wind sets directly in. The access to the Island from this natural harbour is by a tunnel cut through the solid rock, to the extent of near one hundred feet, at the end of which is a road, which, by a sharp and winding ascent of about a mile, conducts to the interior. This tunnel was made in 1588 ; and while there was any danger of the Island being surprised, was protected by a strong gate, which could resist in that narrow space any force that could be brought against it. About twenty years ago a commodious pier was erected within this cove, which has greatly added to the facility of landing goods. After ascending the hill, the visitor will find himself on a table land, but broken by a few valleys.

Little Serk, which is on the south side, is connected with the larger part of the Island by a narrow isthmus called the *Coupée* ; this is somewhat dangerous to pass, and is by no means advisable should the person proposing to attempt it be liable to giddiness in the head. The whole length is

about 300 yards, but the most dangerous part is considerably less ; here the path in some parts is not more than a yard wide, and not protected by any barrier. On the eastern side the rock on which the isthmus rests is almost perpendicular, and you look down on the sea upwards of 200 feet beneath ; on the western it is somewhat more shelving, but in either case it is truly terrific to look down from this narrow ridge.*

There is another small island called l'Isle des Marchands, which rises on the western side, and there are many detached rocks surrounding the Island on every side.

There is no town on the Island. The copyholders of course have houses on their estates, and there are a few others scattered about. The miller, the blacksmith, and the publican are useful personages, though in a small community. There is a neat church which stands on the high ground, near which the road from Creux harbour passes, and the Seigneur's house is about a quarter of a mile distant, descending towards Eperquerie. A main road runs through the Island, which is in excellent order, with collateral roads leading to the different farms.

The population of Serk, including the adjoining island of des Marchands, by the census of 1841, is 790 persons, inhabiting 130 houses ; these are, of course, small, as the average is only six persons to each house. Most of the Serkmen are fishermen as well as agriculturists, and thus they find employment for their leisure time ; and their proximity to Guernsey furnishes them with ready means for the disposal of the produce of their labours.

Although the trade of Serk has hitherto been almost

* A story is told of a man who had daily to pass to and fro over this neck of land, and in the evening was too apt to be disordered by liquor : the plan he adopted to ascertain his danger before he passed was to walk over a plank raised above the ground ; if he did this without falling he considered himself safe ; if not, he would lie down and sleep away the effects of the liquor till the next day.

confined to Guernsey, there is a prospect of its having a wider range. The Island has been found to contain silver, copper, and lead ore, and a company has been formed for working mines in it. This company was originally formed in 1834, by a grant from Mr. P. Le Pelley, the Seigneur, under the conditions that he was to have, besides a small annual rent for the land on which the shafts were to be sunk, 6 per cent on the amount of produce. The Company consisted at first of only 200 shares of £5 per share, but in 1838 the number of shares was increased to 2000 of the same £5 value, when the bonus to Mr. Le Pelley was increased to 8 per cent., since which time the price of shares has again been advanced to raise more money.

Three shafts have been sunk in different parts of the Island, but the only mine that has been worked to any extent is that which is situated at the extreme south-eastern end of Little Serk. It will be acceptable to the reader to give some additional information from a Report published in 1841: in allusion to the principal mine, where the shaft named after the Seigneur has been sunk, it observes:

The shallower parts of the *lode* consist of clay, *gossan*, carbonate of lime, galena, carbonate of lead, the green and blue carbonates of copper, with iron and copper pyrites, which give it a very strong resemblance to many copper *lodes*. The chief part of the metalliferous minerals contained in these superficial portions of it has, however, been removed. But there is one yet remaining, of much rarity and singularity, which I had never before met with but as a minute hand-specimen: it has been found to be a muriate of silver, mixed, of course, more or less with the non-metallic ingredients of the *lode*, and having the external characters of a soft earthy substance, of a lemon yellow, pale green, or brownish hue, and which might have been with ease passed over as felspar clay, tinged with a little of the phosphate and muriate of lead. This important discovery has led to its detection in the shallow adit for an extent of 10

fathoms in length, and in the deep adit for 20 fathoms long, east of Le Pelley's shaft, and west of it in both these levels.

The same report gives the following product per ton of ore :—

	oz.	dwt.	grs.
1.—Muriate of silver, from shallow adit . . .	16	13	8
2.— do. do. from deep adit . . .	119	0	0
3.—From the <i>lode</i> in western end of 20 fathom level	65	16	16
4.—From the <i>lode</i> in western end of 30 fathom level	60	6	16
5.—From the rich part of the <i>lode</i> east of Le Pelley's shaft, 30 fathom level	259	0	0
6.—The average of the hardest part of the muriate of silver prepared for sale	35	0	0

The soil of Serk is remarkably fertile : about three-fourths of the Island are in cultivation. Wheat and potatoes are the chief products ; of both it has produced abundant crops. Parsnips and mangold-wurzel are much cultivated, which are used in the feeding of cattle. Barley, oats, and beans are grown, but not to any great extent. It has been asserted that the Island produces four times its own consumption. This may readily be admitted with respect to wheat, as no great quantity is consumed ; but taking an average of all the crops, it may fairly be allowed that the produce is more than double of what the inhabitants would require. Besides what was retained for the use of the Island, 20,000 bushels of wheat were sent to Guernsey in one year. The mode of tillage and manuring the land is the same as in the other islands, but animal manure is more esteemed. Vraic is not so plentiful, as so small a portion of the Island is occupied by a flat shore that the weed cannot accumulate : much of this is however brought from the neighbouring island of Herm.

There are no more cows reared in the Island than to supply itself with milk and butter, and the Guernsey

market with the latter ; a large quantity is sent thither, as the dairy is a principal object in a Serk farm. This, with a boat load of potatoes occasionally to England, till lately constituted the principal exports from the Island. Sheep are also bred for the Guernsey market, and are considered superior to those of that island ; probably occasioned by better feed. The hogs bred in Serk are similar to those of Alderney, and are sometimes fatted to weigh upwards of twenty score.

After this general description of Serk, the whole Island being the property of one person, the small number of its inhabitants, and having no town where numbers congregate and thus occasion strife, the reader will hardly expect to hear of its constitution and government ; but it has both, and it has had its little revolution also. The Island was at first under the legal jurisdiction of a judge and jurats, but subject to the Royal Court of Guernsey. These appear to have been somewhat turbulent during the reign of Charles I., for, having refused to take the required oaths, they were deprived of their authority, and a Seneshal under the Seigneur appointed to administer summary justice ; but all cases of litigation were referred to the court of Guernsey ; and this is the present system. The authorities now consist of the Seigneur, Seneshal, a constable, vintenier, tythingmen, and two overseers of the poor.

Serk is not without the means of religious instruction and of public education. The church has been already noticed, or it is rather a chapel, built at the expense of the Seigneur and the inhabitants, assisted by the Church-building Society in London. There is a neat dwelling for the minister, who receives £100 per annum, payable out of the tithes, besides a small addition arising from church fees. In 1827 Mr. Le Pelley, who was at that time Seigneur, caused a school house to be erected, which is capable

of containing about 100 children*; and the States of Guernsey granted £500, which sum was invested in the French funds, the interest of which constitutes the master's salary. There is a small community of Wesleyan Methodists on the Island.

The original grant of the Island conferred privileges of a feudal character, one of which was, that no person could be married without consent of the Seigneur, and paying a fine: this, with others incompatible with the spirit of the age, have been conceded, and are no longer enforced.

The air of Serk is considered particularly salubrious, although from its great elevation this must be of a more bracing character than would suit delicate constitutions. It is occasionally visited by invalids during summer, and would be more frequented than it is if there were more accommodation. Probably it is the policy of the Seigneur to give no encouragement to the building of houses beyond what are needful for the legitimate population.

Of the inhabitants of Serk there is scarcely any thing to mark them from those of the neighbouring islands. A keen observer of human nature would probably say that the Serkmen are generally more robust, more active, and of a more determined character than their neighbours. Admitting this to be a fact, it may be occasioned by their mode of life; this being wholly divided between nautical and agricultural pursuits, which, taken conjointly, seem likely to produce the result. The women and the youth of both sexes have the same custom as in Jersey—meeting at each other's houses, which is called a *Vielle*, the particulars of which have been already described in the account of that Island.

Their language is as in the other islands; but the constant communication with the town in Guernsey, where

* The funds for this building were principally supplied by the National Society in London.

English is generally spoken, has caused that language to be better known in Serk generally, than among those of Jersey and Guernsey living in the country.

In such a small community a medical practitioner would scarcely find any employment, even if the very healthy state of the Islanders did not make one almost unnecessary. Without perpetuating the pun directed against the faculty, it may be observed, that if the Island has not the benefit of their skill it has not suffered from their absence. For five successive years not a single death occurred on the Island. This, in a population between 500 and 600, which was the number at the time alluded to, 1816-1820, is a circumstance worthy of notice.

CHAPTER XX.

HERM AND JETHOU.

HERM and Jethou will claim some notice, as two of those which come under the denomination of "The Channel Islands," though small both in importance and extent. They are situated to the eastward of Guernsey, and are about midway between that Island and Serk, though lying somewhat nearer to the former than the latter. The Islands are separated from Guernsey by a channel called "Little Russell." Vessels making for St. Peter's Port take this course: the other, which divides the two Islands from Serk, is the "Great Russell." Ships sailing to Jersey from the northward, or to any French port in the lower part of St. Michael's bay, would pass through this passage or take a more easterly course, leaving Serk to the westward, as the wind may be. These two Islands are of great advantage to the Guernsey roads; forming a kind of break-water to them, and furnishing good protection from winds blowing from any part of the compass from N.E. to S.E. Even Serk itself, though at a distance of eight miles, as the Island stands more to the southward, gives additional protection, so that nearly the whole of that part of Guernsey that is exposed to easterly gales is in a measure protected from the full violence of the waves coming in that direction.

Herm.

Herm, small as it is, is not altogether "unknown to fame," at least not to history. It is mentioned by Camden as being the property of the Crown: it so continued till the year 1737, when it was alienated by way of a fee farm lease, at the moderate rent of £14 per annum; in this way it has passed through several hands.

Herm is scarcely a mile long, and it is not wide, and as the shore is low, it has the appearance of a long narrow strip of land. The surface contains about one thousand vergées of land, or four hundred English acres; one third part is cultivated, the remainder is covered with furze and brambles, with a portion of what may be termed down, though it scarcely deserves the name. The land that is under the plough is very fertile, and bears good crops of wheat and potatoes; the other is a harbour for rabbits, with which this, as well as the other small Islands that have been described, abounds. Herm has also both pheasants and partridges, which a former proprietor brought over, and encouraged the breed: this, however, is not the first time that the Island has been so honoured; a governor of Guernsey, some years ago, used it as a park for deer and other game.

Herm is held under a lease from the Crown at a very small rental, but it has been so improved, that it was sold some time ago for a considerable sum, with an additional annual rent charge of £400, since which time it must further have increased in value, as a stone quarry is now worked on the Island, and a considerable sum has been expended on forming a harbour, and a pier has been erected for the convenience of loading the stone. The parliamentary return of population for 1841 states that it has on it seven houses and thirty-eight persons.

The most remarkable peculiarity of Herm is the shell

beach ; this is actually covered with shells, to the extent of half a mile, and to a considerable depth, without any admixture of sand or pebbles. These have been so frequently examined by conchologists, that all that were truly valuable have been taken away, but enough remains both in quantity and variety to amuse and interest the simply curious. The Island is very much visited, both by the inhabitants and occasional residents in Guernsey, for the purpose of exploring this beach, which furnishes pleasant amusement on a day favourable for a trip on the water.

Herm, like the other islands, is within the bailiwick of Guernsey ; as it is wholly the property of one person, the entire jurisdiction is vested in him, and it is that kind of authority which property gives, that every man may do what he will with his own. One of the proprietors did, however, some years ago apply to the Royal Court of Guernsey to be appointed a magistrate, that he might have a legal power over his workmen : this, however, was refused, the Court probably, and indeed wisely, thinking that the power he had of dismissing any refractory labourer, and thus compelling him to leave the Island, was quite sufficient, and not so liable to abuse as an authority of a more stringent nature, and one in which even-handed justice should act its part.

Previously to 1837, it was discovered that Herm, as well as Serk, contained silver, copper, and lead ore ; and during that year a Company was formed for the purpose of raising money in order to prosecute researches. The prospectus submitted to the public presents the following favourable expectation : it observes, " The appearance of the metallic veins in the adjacent island of Serk, together with the quantity of rich ores now raising, must be sufficient to satisfy the most incredulous that the metallic veins in these Islands are richly deserving attention, and are as likely to turn out as profitable a speculation as any mines yet

discovered. To the south-east part of the island of Herm there exists a fine copper lode : it is from 30 to 40 feet in width, and is the largest lode yet seen in the Channel Islands. The middle part of the lode consists of a very kindly spar, with a soft gozen on each side of it." There is reason to fear that the expectations thus held out have not been fully realized.

Herm produces most excellent granite ; and it has this peculiar property, that when used for paving it wears down to a regular form, yet always retaining a rough surface, thus affording good footing for horses. The road leading from the East to the West India Docks was formed of it, and it is so solid, that it exceeds in weight that brought from Scotland, twelve cubic feet of Herm granite weighing as much as thirteen of that from the neighbourhood of Aberdeen. Since the Herm stone has been known to be of such excellent quality, facilities have been given to the Island for the purpose of loading. A commodious pier has been made ; and a railway formed from it to the quarries, by which between five and six hundred tons could be shipped in a day.

Jethou.

The appearance of Jethou is very different from that of its neighbour just described : as Herm is long and narrow, Jethou seems to rise like an immense tumulus from the sea. It is divided from the other by a channel which is somewhat dangerous, and vessels having to pass it generally steer to the southward. The actual surface presents about one hundred acres of land, a comparatively small portion of which is cultivated ; the rest is left to that prolific race, the rabbits. It may therefore be considered as a farm, surrounded by what in England is called a ring-fence, and most effectual it is for its protection. The Island is about one fourth the size of Herm, and in circumference

about a mile at the base of the hill. It was the property of Government, but let on the same terms as Herm, and at a very moderate rent, renewable every twenty or twenty-one years. There are only two houses on it—the one occupied either by the immediate lessee, or his under-tenant, the other by the man employed on the farm, to which is attached a good orchard; the cultivation of this in the growth of the apple tree, and making the fruit into cider, form the chief employment of this eremite agriculturist. Occasional trips to Guernsey to sell his produce, or to procure necessities for himself and family, serve to vary the monotony of his life.

APPENDIX.

JERSEY.

Names of the Principal Military and Civil Officers, Consuls, Situation of Public Offices, &c.

GOVERNOR	Viscount Beresford.
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	Major Gen. Sir E. Gibbs, K.C.B.
BAILLY	Sir J. De Veulle.
LIEUTENANT BAILIFF	E. Bisson, Esq.
DEAN	The very Rev. F. Jeune, LL.D.
ATTORNEY GENERAL	T. Le Breton, Esq.
SOLICITOR GENERAL	John W. Dupré, Esq.
VICOMTE	M. Gossett, Esq.
DEPUTY VICOMTE	P. Le Gallais, Esq.
GREFFIER	F. Godfray, Esq.

ADVOCATES:—John Hammond, Esq.—F. Le Couteur, Esq.—F. Godfray, Esq.—Peter Le Sueur, Esq.—James Godfray, Esq.—Robert Marett, Esq.

FOREIGN CONSULS:—James Deslandes, Esq., for Sweden and Norway.—P. J. Simon, for France.—Thomas De La Taste, Esq., for Portugal.—John Moisson, Jun., for the Netherlands.—Ed. De La Taste, Esq., for Brazil.—Frs. De St. Croix, Esq., for Hanover.—Chs. Le Quesne, Esq., for Spain.—P. Warne, Esq., for the Hanse Towns.—H. C. Godfray, Esq., for Belgium and Mecklenburgh.—J. De St. Croix, Esq. for Denmark.—P. De St. Croix, Esq., for Prussia.—W. F. Blanchard, Esq., for the United States. J. Collings, Esq., (of Guernsey), for Russia.

Passports are granted by the Governor at his office in Ann Street, from 10 to 4.

AGENT FOR LLOYD'S:—T. Mallet, Esq.

AGENT OF DROITS OF ADMIRALTY:—A. Gosset, Esq.

POST OFFICE,—Minden Place, open from 9 in the morning to 10 in the evening.—Packets arrive every Sunday and Thursday. The Mails for England are made up every Monday and Friday evening.

OFFICE FOR COLLECTING THE DUTIES ON WINES AND SPIRITS:—Hue Street, open from 10 to 4.

CUSTOM HOUSE OFFICE:—No. 9, Bond Street, open from 9 to 4.

List of Churches and Dissenting Chapels, with the time of performing Divine Service.

TOWN PAROCHIAL CHURCH.—Sunday morning, at 11, in French; afternoon, at 2, in English; evening, at 7, in French; Wednesday morning, at 11, in French; Thursday evening, at 7, in French.

CHAPEL OF EASE, ALL SAINTS' PARADE.—Sunday morning, at 11, in English; afternoon, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 2, in French.

ST. PAUL'S, NEW STREET.—Sunday morning, at 11, in English; evening, at 7, in English.

ST. JAMES'S, ST. JAMES'S STREET.—Sunday morning, at 11, in English; evening, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 6, in English; Thursday morning, at 11, in English.

INDEPENDENT, UPPER HALKET PLACE.—Sunday morning, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 10, in French; evening, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 6, in French; Thursday evening, at 7, in French.

INDEPENDENT, GROVE PLACE.—Sunday morning, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 10, in French; evening, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 6, in French.

ZION CHAPEL UNION STREET.—Sunday morning, at 11, in English; evening, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 6, in English.

BAPTIST, NEW STREET.—Sunday morning, at 11, in English; evening, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 6, in English; Thursday evening, at 7, in English.

SALEM CHAPEL, ANN STREET.—Sunday morning, at 11, in English; evening, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 6, in English.

The Wesleyan Methodists have also their places of worship in Peter Street and Don Street, both in English and French. Roman Catholics—Hue Street in English, Castle Street in French.

INNS:—British, Broad-street.—Union, Royal Square.—Caledonia and Royal Yacht Club Hotel, Pier.—Commercial, Esplanade.

BOARDING HOUSES:—Blanchard, 15, Halket Place.—Bree, 1, Stopford Terrace.—York, Royal Square.—Norman, Belmont Road.

BANKERS:—Cæsarea Bank, Bond-street.—Godfray, Hugh, Sons, and Co., Old Bank, Hill-street, draw on De Lisle and Co., London.—Janvrin and Co., Commercial Bank, Broad-street, draw on De Lisle and Co. London.—Nicolle, De St. Croix and Co., Jersey Banking Company, Broad-street, draw on J. Thomas, Son, and Le Feuvre, London.—Jersey Mercantile Bank, King-street, draw on Pickstock, London.

GUERNSEY.

Names of the Principal Military and Civil Officers, Consuls, Situation of Public Offices, &c.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	.	.	Major Gen. W. F. P. Napier.
BAILIFF	.	.	D. D. L. Brock, Esq.
LIEUTENANT BAILIFF	.	.	J. Guille, Esq.
DEAN	.	.	The very Rev. Nicholas Carey.
ATTORNEY GENERAL	.	.	C. De Jersey, Esq.
SOLICITOR GENERAL	.	.	J. T. Saumarez, Esq.
VICOMTE OF SHERIFF	.	.	N. Lefebvre, Esq.

DEPUTY VICOMTE F. Martin, Esq.

REGISTRAR C. Lefebvre, Esq.

ADVOCATES:—R. Mac Culloch, Esq.—T. Falla, Esq.—H. Tupper, Esq.
—P. Jeremie, Esq.—J. Gallienne, Esq.—C. A. Guille, Esq.

VISITORS TO ELIZABETH COLLEGE:—His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor; and the very Rev. the Dean.

PRESIDENT OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURT:—Rev. T. Brock.

FOREIGN CONSULS AND VICE-CONSULS:—Harry Dobre, for Hanover.
—John Le Marchant, for Holland, Prussia, and America.—F. De Putron, for Belgium.—H. Dobrée, for Naples.—James Priaulx, for Spain.—John Mansell, for Portugal and its dependencies.—Albert Carey, for Sweden and Norway.—Henry Tupper, for France.—Joseph Collins, for Russia.—John Mellish, for the Brazils.

GOVERNMENT POST-OFFICE, HIGH STREET:—The office is open every day in the week, from seven in the morning until eight in the evening, from 5th March to 5th November; and from eight to eight, from 5th November to 5th March. On Sunday the office closes at two o'clock, P.M. The Packets arrive every Sunday and Thursday from Weymouth, and the mails are made up for England every Monday and Friday night. Letters may be dispatched by private steamers through Southampton, if posted one hour before their departure, and written on "Viâ Southampton."

FOREIGN POST-OFFICE:—High Street. The Office is open every day in the week, from nine in the morning until six in the evening, throughout the year.

AGENT FOR LLOYD'S:—Henry Tupper.

LLOYD'S SURVEYOR:—Peter Collas.

CUSTOM HOUSE:—Principal officer, John Radford.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:—*President*, F. Price, Jun.

List of Churches and Dissenting Chapels, and Time of Services.

EPISCOPALIAN.—The Parochial Church in St. Peter's Port, morning and evening, in French.—St. James's Church, St. James's-street, morning and evening, in English.—St. John's Church, Amballes, morning and evening, in English.—Trinity Chapel, Country-Mansell, morning and evening, in French.—Bethel Chapel, Manor-street, morning and evening, in English.

GARRISON SERVICE in the Parochial Church, afternoon, in English.

INDEPENDENTS:—New-street Chapel, in French.—Eldad Chapel, Union Street, in English.

WESLEYANS:—Ebenezer Chapel, Saumarez-street, in English.—Le Marchant-street Chapel, in French.—Wesley Chapel, Bouet, in French and English,—French morning and evening, English afternoon.

METHODIST NEW CONNEXION:—Zion Chapel, Clifton, in English.

FRIENDS:—Meeting House, Clifton, morning and afternoon.

ROMAN CATHOLICS :—Chapel, Burnt-lane, near Vauvert-road, morning in English, afternoon in French.

PRINCIPAL HOTELS :—Marshall, and Gardner, both in the High street.

BOARDING HOUSES :—Shore, High-street.—Dadson, Cornet street.—Bayfield, Mordaunt, Esplanade.

BANKING COMPANIES :—Guernsey Banking Company.—Guernsey Commercial Banking Company. They are situated in the High-street. Open every day (Sundays and holidays excepted) from ten to three.

JERSEY AND GUERNSEY STEAM PACKETS.

FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO JERSEY.

The **ATALANTA** or the **MONARCH** leave Southampton Pier every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday evening, at 7 o'clock (weather permitting), and return Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. W. J. Le Feuvre, 71, High Street, French consul, Agent.

The **LADY DE SAUMAREZ** leaves Southampton every Monday and Thursday at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 o'clock, and returns every Wednesday and Saturday. Mr. N. M. Priaux, 78, High Street, Agent.

* * Both these vessels stop at Guernsey going and returning, to land and take on board passengers.

One of the Company's Packets proceeds to St. Malo from Jersey every Wednesday and Friday on the arrival of the Steamers from Southampton, and to Granville every Monday morning, returning Thursday and Saturday from St. Malo, and on Tuesday from Granville.

FROM WEYMOUTH TO JERSEY.

Her Majesty's Mail Packets, **WILDFIRE**, **FEARLESS**, and **DASHER**, leave Weymouth alternately every Wednesday and Saturday evenings at 9 o'clock, and return every Saturday and Tuesday; they stop at Guernsey going and returning. The Agency is conducted at the Post Office.

FROM PLYMOUTH TO JERSEY.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE leaves Plymouth every Thursday evening at 6 o'clock, arrives the following day, and returns the same afternoon; takes passengers for Guernsey and Falmouth.

* * Traders are constantly sailing to London, Bristol, Poole, Southampton, and several ports in France.

THE END.

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